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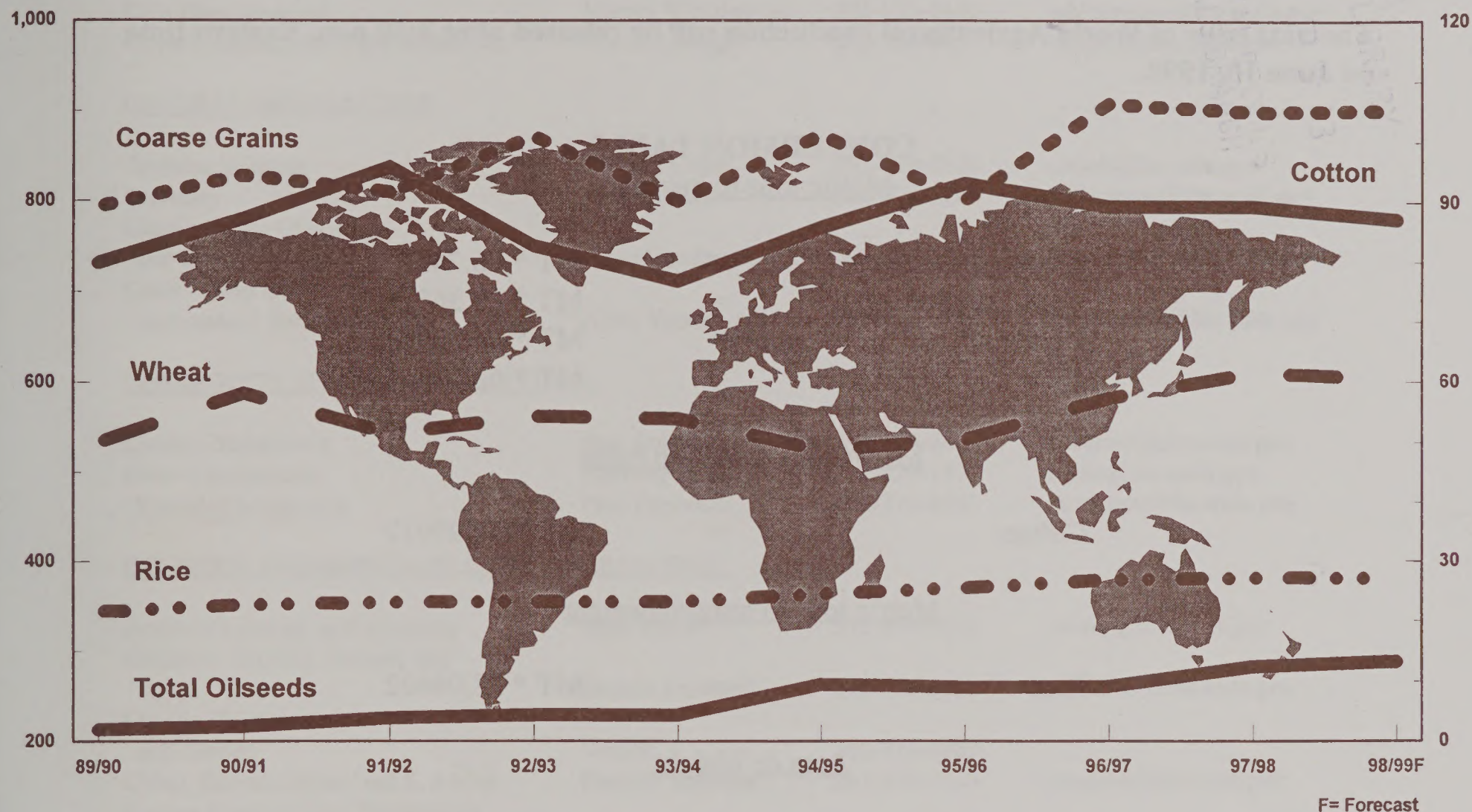
Circular Series  
WAP 05-98  
May 1998

# World Agricultural Production

Grains & Oilseeds  
Million Metric Tons

## World Grains, Oilseeds and Cotton Production

Cotton  
Million 480-pound bales



### Included This Month: 1998/99 Forecasts

May is the first month that USDA forecasts outyear (1998/99) wheat and coarse grains production for all countries. World and U.S. rice, total oilseeds, and cotton production are forecast in the aggregate: in July, individual country production numbers will be released. World 1998/99 wheat production is forecast down from 1997/98, primarily in the United States, China, Argentina, Canada, and the FSU-12, due to lower international prices and poor planting conditions in some countries. World 1998/99 coarse grain production is forecast higher due to increases mainly in the United States and China. The corn crop in both countries is forecast to be the second-largest on record. World 1998/99 rice production is forecast at a record level due to an estimated record total foreign output. The strong world rice price likely will encourage major foreign exporting countries to plant more area. For the United States, the rice crop is forecast to be the second highest on record. World oilseed production for 1998/99 is forecast higher on continued strengthening of world demand for edible oil. U.S. soybean output is projected at a record based on record area and bumper yields. World cotton production for 1998/99 is forecast down for the third consecutive year as U.S. and world prices are depressed. Preliminary forecasts indicate world production could decline to 86.5 million bales with China and the United States having the largest declines.



This report draws on information from USDA's global network of agricultural attaches and counselors, official statistics of foreign governments, other foreign source materials, and results of office analysis. Estimates of U.S. acreage, yield, and production are from the USDA's Agricultural Statistics Board, except where noted. This report is based on unrounded data; numbers may not add to totals because of rounding. This report reflects official USDA estimates released in the World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE-338), May 12, 1998.

This report was prepared by the Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division (PECAD), FAS/USDA, AgStop 1045, Washington, D.C. 20250-1045. Further information may be obtained by writing to the division, by calling (202) 720-0888, or by FAX (202) 720-8880.

**The next issue of World Agricultural Production will be released after 3:30 p.m. Eastern time on June 15, 1998.**

## CONVERSION TABLE

### Metric tons to bushels

Wheat & soybeans	=	MT * 36.7437
Corn, sorghum, rye	=	MT * 39.36825
Barley	=	MT * 45.929625
Oats	=	MT * 68.894438

### Metric tons to 480-lb bales

Cotton	=	MT * 4.592917
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### Metric tons to hundredweight

Rice	=	MT * 22.04622
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### Area & Weight

1 hectare	=	2.471044 acres
1 kilogram	=	2.204622 pounds

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Economic Research Service at <http://www.usda.gov/ers>  
Joint Agricultural Weather Facility at <http://www.usda.gov/oce/waob/jawf>



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

May 1998

<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
----------------	-------------

### PRODUCTION HIGHLIGHTS FOR 1998/99

Wheat .....	7
Coarse Grains .....	9
Rice .....	10
Oilseeds .....	10
Cotton .....	10

### PRODUCTION HIGHLIGHTS FOR 1997/98

Wheat .....	11
Coarse Grains .....	11
Rice .....	12
Oilseeds .....	13
Cotton .....	14

### TABLES

Table 1. U.S. Crop Acreage, Yield, and Production .....	15
Table 2. World Crop Production Summary .....	16
Table 3. Wheat Area, Yield, and Production:	
World and Selected Countries and Regions .....	17
Table 4. Total Coarse Grain Area, Yield, and Production:	
World and Selected Countries and Regions .....	18
Table 5. Corn Area, Yield, and Production:	
World and Selected Countries and Regions .....	19
Table 6. Barley Area, Yield, and Production:	
World and Selected Countries and Regions .....	20
Table 7. Oats Area, Yield, and Production:	
World and Selected Countries and Regions .....	21
Table 8. Rye Area, Yield, and Production:	
World and Selected Countries and Regions .....	22
Table 9. Sorghum Area, Yield, and Production:	
World and Selected Countries and Regions .....	23
Table 10. Rice Area, Yield, and Production:	
World and Selected Countries and Regions .....	24
Table 11. Total Oilseed Area, Yield, and Production:	
World and Selected Countries and Regions .....	25
Table 12. Soybean Area, Yield, and Production:	
World and Selected Countries and Regions .....	26
Table 13. Cottonseed Area, Yield, and Production:	
World and Selected Countries and Regions .....	27
Table 14. Peanut Area, Yield, and Production:	
World and Selected Countries and Regions .....	28



TABLES

Table 15. Sunflowerseed Area, Yield, and Production:	
World and Selected Countries and Regions .....	29
Table 16. Rapeseed Area, Yield, and Production:	
World and Selected Countries and Regions .....	30
Table 17. Copra, Palm Kernel, and Palm Oil Production:	
World and Selected Countries and Regions .....	31
Table 18. Cotton Area, Yield, and Production:	
World and Selected Countries and Regions .....	32
Table 19. Reliability of May Production Projections .....	33

MAPS

Map 1. World Agricultural Weather Highlights .....	34
Map 2. May Normal Crop Calendar .....	35
Map 3. June Normal Crop Calendar .....	36
Map 4. Former Soviet Union: Weather and Crop Highlights .....	41
Map 5. China: Weather and Crop Highlights .....	42

WEATHER BRIEFS

Northwestern Africa: Showers Stabilize Eastern Wheat Yields .....	37
South America: Northern Argentina and Southern Brazil Remain Wet .....	37
Canada: Lingering Winter Cold Restricts Crop Progress .....	38

PRODUCTION BRIEFS

Brazil: Soybean Production Up Based On Good Harvest Results .....	38
Argentina: Rains and Floods Reduce Cotton, Rice, and Sunflowerseed Production .....	38
China: Peanut Estimate Raised .....	39
United States: Crop Condition and Progress .....	39
Former Soviet Union: Weather and Crop Developments .....	40

FEATURE COMMODITY ARTICLES

1998/99 World Grain Production Outlook .....	43
Indications For 1998/99 World Cotton Production .....	58

FEATURE TABLES

Table 20. World Cotton Area, Yield, and Production .....	60
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FEATURE CHARTS

Chart 1. World Wheat Output Decreases .....	44
Chart 2. World Coarse Grain Output Increases .....	44
Chart 3. World Rice Output at Record Level .....	45
Chart 4. Total Foreign Rice Output Increases to Record .....	45
Chart 5. Total Foreign Wheat Output Down .....	46
Chart 6. Total Foreign Coarse Output Increases .....	46



TABLES

Chart 7. United States Rice Output Higher .....	47
Chart 8. United States Wheat Output Decreases .....	48
Chart 9. United States Coarse Grain Output Increases .....	48
Chart 10. EU Wheat Output At record Level .....	49
Chart 11. EU Coarse Grain Output Lower .....	49
Chart 12. Australia Wheat Output Unchanged .....	50
Chart 13. Australia Coarse Grain Output Up Slightly .....	50
Chart 14. Canada Wheat Output Down .....	51
Chart 15. Canada Coarse Grain Output Higher .....	51
Chart 16. Argentina Wheat Production Decreases .....	52
Chart 17. Argentina Coarse Grain Output Down .....	52
Chart 18. China Wheat Output Lower .....	53
Chart 19. China Coarse Grain Production Higher .....	53
Chart 20. FSU-12 Wheat Output Decreases .....	54
Chart 21. FSU-12 Coarse Grain Output Decreases .....	54
Chart 22. Mexico Wheat Output Down Slightly .....	55
Chart 23. Mexico Coarse Grain Output Higher .....	55
Chart 24. Brazil Wheat Output Lower .....	56
Chart 25. Brazil Coarse Grain Output Higher .....	56
Chart 26. Northwest Africa Wheat Output Higher .....	57
Chart 27. Northwest Africa Coarse Grain Output Higher .....	57



**PRODUCTION HIGHLIGHTS FOR 1998/99**

**May 1998**

**WHEAT**

<u>Country</u>	<u>----- Current Estimate MMT</u>	<u>1998/99 Monthly Change MMT</u>	<u>----- Monthly Change (%)</u>	<u>Change from 1997/9 8 (%)</u>	<u>Comments</u>
World	597.0	NA	NA	-2	Production is forecast lower due to reductions in the United States and total foreign category.
United States	64.1	NA	NA	-7	Production is forecast down due to a decrease in area and yield.
Total Foreign	532.8	NA	NA	-2	Production is forecast lower due mainly to reductions in Argentina, FSU-12, Eastern Europe, and India.
Brazil	2.0	NA	NA	-29	Production is forecast down due to reduced area and yield, owing to low domestic prices.
Romania	5.7	NA	NA	-21	Production is forecast lower due to reductions in area and yield. Area is down as unusually cold weather in the fall stalled sowing operations.
Argentina	12.0	NA	NA	-18	Production is forecast lower due to reduced area and yield prospects. Weak prices and a delayed soybean harvest, due to excessively wet weather, lowers area potential.
Hungary	4.5	NA	NA	-15	Production is forecast lower as a dry fall and winter limit yield potential.
Ukraine	16.5	NA	NA	-10	Production is forecast lower as a wet fall and a delayed corn harvest reduced area. Yield prospects are similar to last season's level.
Russia	40.0	NA	NA	-10	Production is forecast lower due to reduced area and a return to more average yield.
Kazakstan	8.0	NA	NA	-8	Production is forecast lower due to reduced area as marginal land continues to be taken out of production.
China	118.0	NA	NA	-5	Production is forecast lower due to reduced area and potential yield as a dry fall negatively affected germination.
Mexico	3.6	NA	NA	-5	Production is forecast lower as yield is projected below last season's record level.



**WHEAT, continued**

<u>Country</u>	<u>-----</u> <u>Current</u> <u>Estimate</u> <u>MMT</u>	<u>1998/99</u> <u>Monthly</u> <u>Change</u> <u>MMT</u>	<u>-----</u> <u>Monthly</u> <u>Change</u> <u>(%)</u>	<u>Change</u> <u>from</u> <u>1997/9</u> <u>8 (%)</u>	<u>Comments</u>
India	67.0	NA	NA	-3	Production is forecast lower due to reduced area and yield. Heavy fall rains have limited area and reduced yield potential.
Baltic States	1.5	NA	NA	-3	Production is forecast slightly lower as yield is projected below last year level.
Canada	24.0	NA	NA	-1	Production is forecast lower as area declines due to weak prices. Yield is projected to be near average.
Australia	19.0	NA	NA	NC	Production is forecast unchanged as both area and yield are expected to equal year-earlier levels. Planting conditions are generally favorable.
Saudi Arabia	1.8	NA	NA	NC	Production is forecast unchanged due to a Government production quota.
Morocco	4.0	NA	NA	+73	Production is forecast higher as output rebounds from last season's drought. Area and yield are higher, but a mid-season dry period has reduced yield potential.
Tunisia	1.2	NA	NA	+33	Production is forecast higher due to increased area and yield, although above-average rainfall delayed plantings.
Iran	11.0	NA	NA	+10	Production is forecast higher due to generally favorable weather. Area and yield are above last year's level.
EU-15	99.7	NA	NA	+5	Production is forecast at a record due to favorable yield prospects for France, Italy, and the United Kingdom.
Poland	8.6	NA	NA	+5	Production is forecast higher as favorable weather increased yield potential.
Pakistan	17.5	NA	NA	+5	Production is forecast higher due to increased area and higher yield. Input use is reportedly greater this season.
Turkey	16.5	NA	NA	+3	Production is forecast higher as area is shifted from barley to wheat. Favorable weather has lifted potential yield.



# COARSE GRAINS

<u>Country</u>	<u>----- Current Estimate MMT</u>	<u>1998/99 Monthly Change MMT</u>	<u>----- Monthly Change (%)</u>	<u>Change from 1997/9 8 (%)</u>	<u>Comments</u>
World	906.8	NA	NA	+1	Production is forecast higher due to increases in the United States and total foreign category.
United States	269.9	NA	NA	+2	Production is forecast higher as increases in corn, barley, and oats offset a decrease in sorghum output.
Total Foreign	636.9	NA	NA	+1	Production is forecast higher due mainly to increases in China and Brazil.
Brazil	35.8	NA	NA	+13	Production is forecast higher as demand for corn is projected to result in increased area. Yield is forecast to be near-average.
Thailand	4.1	NA	NA	+11	Production is forecast higher due to area and yield increases for corn.
China	135.0	NA	NA	+10	Production is forecast higher as corn area and yield are increased over last season's drought-reduced level.
Canada	26.9	NA	NA	+6	Production is forecast higher due to increased output of barley, corn, and oats. Oat planting intentions are up almost 15 percent from last year.
South Africa	9.0	NA	NA	+6	Production is forecast higher as corn yield returns to an average level while area remains mostly unchanged.
Mexico	25.8	NA	NA	+6	Production is forecast higher due to increases in sorghum and corn area.
Indonesia	6.0	NA	NA	+5	Production is forecast up due to increased corn area and yield from 1997/98's drought-reduced level. Continuing use of high-yielding varieties should increase yield potential.
Australia	8.9	NA	NA	+0	Production is forecast nearly unchanged as barley area and yield are mostly unchanged from last season.
Turkey	10.1	NA	NA	NC	Production is forecast unchanged from last season as a decrease in barley area is offset by an increase in yield.
Kazakstan	2.3	NA	NA	-28	Production is forecast down due to a reduction in barley area.
Romania	11.4	NA	NA	-24	Production is forecast lower as corn yield is projected down from last season's robust level.



## COARSE GRAINS, continued

<u>Country</u>	<u>-----</u> <u>Current</u> <u>Estimate</u> <u>MMT</u>	<u>1998/99</u> <u>Monthly</u> <u>Change</u> <u>MMT</u>	<u>-----</u> <u>Monthly</u> <u>Change</u> <u>(%)</u>	<u>Change</u> <u>from</u> <u>1997/9</u> <u>8 (%)</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Hungary	7.0	NA	NA	-14	Production is forecast down as corn yield returns to an average level.
Ukraine	13.5	NA	NA	-12	Production is forecast lower due to decreases mainly in barley and corn.
Argentina	22.2	NA	NA	-8	Production is forecast lower as corn yield is forecast below the 1997/98 record level.
Russia	37.5	NA	NA	-8	Production is forecast lower due to decreases in barley, oats, rye, and corn.
EU-15	103.4	NA	NA	-5	Production is forecast down from last season's record as some barley area is switched to wheat.
Poland	16.8	NA	NA	-3	Production is forecast lower due to a reduction in area for barley. Yield is expected to be similar to 1997/98.

## RICE (MILLED BASED)

RICE (MILLED BASED) FORECAST FOR 1998/99: World production is forecast at a record 387.0 million tons, up 6.6 million or 2 percent from 1997/98. Foreign production for 1998/99 is forecast at 381.0 million tons, up 6.6 million or 2 percent from 1997/98. Rice production in the United States is forecast at 6.0 million, up 0.1 million or 2 percent from 1997/98.

## OILSEEDS

OILSEEDS FORECAST FOR 1998/99: World oilseed production is forecast at 288.5 million tons, up 5.2 million or 2 percent from 1997/98. Foreign production for 1998/99 is forecast at a record 202.3 million tons, up 3.2 million or 2 percent from last year. Total oilseed production in the United States is forecast at a record 86.2 million tons, up 1.9 million or 2 percent from last year.

## COTTON

COTTON FORECAST FOR 1998/99: World cotton production is forecast at 86.5 million bales, down 2.1 million or 2 percent from 1997/98. Total foreign production is forecast at 69.8 million bales, about equal to 1997/98. United States production is forecast at 16.7 million bales, down 2.1 million or 11 percent from 1997/98.



**PRODUCTION HIGHLIGHTS FOR 1997/98**

**May 1998**

**WHEAT**

<u>Country</u>	<u>-----</u> <u>Current</u> <u>Estimate</u> <u>MMT</u>	<u>1997/98</u> <u>Monthly</u> <u>Change</u> <u>MMT</u>	<u>-----</u> <u>Monthly</u> <u>Change</u> <u>(%)</u>	<u>Change</u> <u>from</u> <u>1996/9</u> <u>7 (%)</u>	<u>Comments</u>
World	610.7	+0.9	+0	+5	Production is estimated higher due to an increase in the total foreign category.
United States	68.8	NC	NC	+11	No change this month.
Total Foreign	541.9	+0.9	+0	+4	Production is estimated higher due to increases mainly in Argentina and FSU-12.

**COARSE GRAINS**

<u>Country</u>	<u>-----</u> <u>Current</u> <u>Estimate</u> <u>MMT</u>	<u>1997/98</u> <u>Monthly</u> <u>Change</u> <u>MMT</u>	<u>-----</u> <u>Monthly</u> <u>Change</u> <u>(%)</u>	<u>Change</u> <u>from</u> <u>1996/9</u> <u>7 (%)</u>	<u>Comments</u>
World	897.5	-1.4	-0	-1	Production is estimated lower due to a decrease in the total foreign category.
United States	265.4	NC	NC	-1	No change this month.
Total Foreign	632.1	-1.4	-0	-1	Production is estimated lower as a decline in Brazil's corn output more than offset an increase Argentina's corn crop.



# WORLD RICE (MILLED BASIS)

<u>Country</u>	<u>-----</u> <u>Current</u> <u>Estimate</u> <u>MMT</u>	<u>1997/98</u> <u>Monthly</u> <u>Change</u> <u>MMT</u>	<u>-----</u> <u>Monthly</u> <u>Change</u> <u>(%)</u>	<u>Change</u> <u>from</u> <u>1996/9</u> <u>7 (%)</u>	<u>Comments</u>
World	380.3	-1.1	-0	+0	Production is estimated lower due to a decrease in the total foreign category.
United States	5.8	NC	NC	+7	No change this month.
Total Foreign	374.5	-1.1	-0	-0	Production is estimated lower due to reductions in Brazil, Vietnam, the Philippines, Argentina, and Uruguay.
Brazil	6.0	-0.5	-8	-9	Production is estimated lower due to a decline in area and yield caused by excessive rainfall in southern growing areas and drought in the northern regions.
Vietnam	17.8	-0.2	-1	-1	Production is estimated lower as unfavorable hot, dry weather in the Red River Delta reduced yield potential during the growing season. In addition, recent dryness in the Mekong River Delta has delayed planting.
Philippines	6.8	-0.2	-3	-6	Production is estimated lower as below-normal rainfall reduced area and yield prospects.
Argentina	0.6	-0.2	-24	-25	Production is estimated lower as excessive rainfall and flooding has reduced area and yield.
Uruguay	0.6	-0.1	-12	-16	Production is estimated lower as excessive rainfall has damaged fields, reducing area and yield.



## OILSEEDS

<u>Country</u>	<u>----- Current Estimate MMT</u>	<u>1997/98 Monthly Change MMT</u>	<u>----- Monthly Change (%)</u>	<u>Change from 1996/97 (%)</u>	<u>Comments</u>
World	283.3	+0.6	+0	+8	Production is estimated higher due to an increase in the total foreign category which more than offset a decline in the United States.
United States	84.2	-0.3	-0	+13	Production is estimate down due to 1997 cotton ginning results.
Total Foreign	199.1	+0.9	+0	+7	Production is estimated higher as increases in China and Brazil more than offset decreases in Argentina and Paraguay.
China	41.7	+0.8	+2	+1	Production is forecast up based on a higher peanut estimate by the Chinese State Statistical Bureau.
Brazil	31.5	+0.7	+2	+15	Production is forecast higher as harvest results indicate increased yield.
Argentina	22.3	-0.3	-1	+28	Production is forecast lower as heavy and persistent rainfall at harvest reduced yield prospects for cottonseed and sunflowerseed.
Paraguay	2.9	-0.2	-7	-1	Production is forecast down because of persistent rainfall during the soybean and cotton harvest.

## PALM OIL

<u>Country</u>	<u>----- Current Estimate MMT</u>	<u>1997/98 Monthly Change MMT</u>	<u>----- Monthly Change (%)</u>	<u>Change from 1996/97 (%)</u>	<u>Comments</u>
World	17.5	-0.1	-1	+0	Production is estimated lower due to a decrease in Malaysia.
Malaysia	8.7	-0.1	-1	-3	Production is estimated lower due to official reports of reduced output in recent months.



# COTTON

<u>Country</u>	<u>-----</u> <u>Current</u> <u>Estimate</u> MBALES	<u>1997/98</u> <u>Monthly</u> <u>Change</u> MBALES	<u>-----</u> <u>Monthly</u> <u>Change</u> (%)	<u>Change</u> <u>from</u> <u>1996/97</u> (%)	<u>Comments</u>
World Total	88.6	-0.6	-1	-1	Production is forecast lower due to decreases in the United States and total foreign category.
United States	18.8	-0.0	-0	-1	Production is forecast down due to slight revisions in area and yield.
Total Foreign	69.8	-0.5	-1	-1	Production is estimated lower due to a decrease in Argentina and Brazil, which more than offset higher production in Australia.
Argentina	1.4	-0.5	-26	-6	Production is forecast lower due to heavy, prolonged rainfall in the main cotton area, reducing both area and potential yield.
Brazil	1.8	-0.1	-5	+38	Production is forecast lower due to persistent rainfall in the southern states of Parana and Sao Paulo, reducing potential yield.
Australia	3.1	+0.1	+3	+11	Production is forecast up as harvest results indicate a higher yield.



**TABLE 1**  
**U.S. Crop Acreage, Yield, and Production**

COMMODITY	Planted Area			Harvested Area			Yield			Production		
	1996/97	1997/98	Proj. 1998/99	1996/97	1997/98	Proj. 1998/99	1996/97	1997/98	Prel. 1998/99 Proj. May	1996/97	1997/98	Prel. 1998/99 Proj. May
All Wheat Winter Other	--Million acres--			--Million acres--			--Bushels per acre--			--Million bushels--		
	75.6	71.0	67.0	62.9	63.6	60.5	36.3	39.7	38.9	2,285	2,527	2,356
	52.0	48.2	46.6	39.7	41.8	40.7	37.2	45.0	41.9	1,478	1,883	1,706
	23.6	22.8	20.4	23.2	21.8	19.8	34.8	29.5	32.8	807	644	650
Soybeans	64.2	70.9	72.0	63.4	69.9	70.9	37.6	39.0	39.5	2,382	2,727	2,800
Corn	79.5	80.2	80.8	73.1	73.7	74.4	127.1	127.0	129.6	9,293	9,366	9,640
Sorghum	13.2	10.1	9.0	11.9	9.4	8.0	67.5	69.5	68.5	803	653	545
Barley	7.1	6.9	6.8	6.8	6.4	6.4	58.5	58.3	59.8	396	374	380
Oats	4.7	5.2	5.2	2.7	2.9	3.1	57.8	60.5	58.9	155	176	180
Rice							--Pounds per acre--			--Million CWT--		
	2.8	3.1	3.1	2.8	3.0	3.1	6,121	5,896	5,980	171.3	178.9	183.0
All Cotton	14.6	13.8	13.2	12.9	13.3	12.3	707	680	650	--Million 480-pound bales--		
										18.9	18.8	16.7

May 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA



TABLE 2  
World Crop Production Summary

Commodity	World	Total Foreign	North America		Europe		FSU-12	Asia				South America	Selected Other			All Others					
			United States	Canada	Mexico	Europe Union		Oth. Europe	W. Europe	Eastern Europe	China		India	Indonesia	Pakistan		Thailand	Argentina	Brazil	Australia	South Africa
---Million metric tons---																					
Wheat																					
	1996/97	582.7	520.6	62.2	29.8	3.8	98.5	2.2	26.4	63.3	110.6	62.6	0.0	16.9	0.0	15.9	3.2	23.7	2.7	16.0	45.0
	1997/98 prel.	610.7	541.9	68.8	24.3	3.5	94.6	0.7	34.8	80.2	124.0	69.0	0.0	16.7	0.0	14.7	2.8	19.0	2.3	16.0	39.5
	1998/99 proj.																				
May	596.9	532.8	64.1	24.0	3.6	99.7	1.1	33.0	73.2	118.0	67.0	0.0	17.5	0.0	12.0	2.0	19.0	2.6	16.5	43.6	
Coarse Grains																					
	1996/97	908.1	640.6	267.6	28.2	26.3	103.8	3.7	49.6	52.1	141.3	34.3	6.0	1.8	4.1	18.9	36.6	10.1	9.5	9.8	104.4
	1997/98 prel.	897.5	632.1	265.4	25.2	24.3	109.0	2.8	58.2	68.0	122.4	30.7	5.7	1.9	3.7	24.1	31.8	8.9	8.5	8.5	98.4
	1998/99 proj.																				
May	906.8	636.9	269.9	26.9	25.8	103.4	3.0	50.6	61.3	135.0	32.2	6.0	1.9	4.1	22.2	35.8	8.9	9.0	10.1	100.9	
Rice (Milled)																					
	1996/97	380.0	374.5	5.5	0.0	0.3	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.7	136.6	81.2	32.0	4.3	13.7	0.8	6.6	1.0	0.0	0.3	95.5
	1997/98 prel.	380.3	374.5	5.8	0.0	0.3	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.8	138.5	82.0	30.9	4.4	14.5	0.6	6.0	0.9	0.0	0.2	93.6
	1998/99 proj.																				
May	387.0	381.0	6.0																		
Total Grains 1/																					
	1996/97	1870.8	1535.6	335.2	58.0	30.4	203.8	5.9	76.0	116.2	388.5	178.2	38.0	23.0	17.8	35.6	46.5	34.8	12.2	26.1	244.8
	1997/98 prel.	1888.5	1548.4	340.0	49.5	28.0	205.2	3.4	93.0	148.9	384.9	181.7	36.6	22.9	18.2	39.3	40.6	28.8	10.8	24.8	231.6
	1998/99 proj.																				
May	1890.7	1550.7	340.0																		
Oilseeds 2/																					
	1995/96	259.7	190.6	69.1	8.8	0.7	13.1	0.1	5.3	11.3	43.3	24.9	2.6	4.0	0.5	19.2	25.0	1.4	1.1	2.2	27.0
	1996/97 prel.	261.7	186.9	74.8	7.3	0.5	12.8	0.1	4.7	8.5	41.4	26.6	2.4	3.7	0.5	17.5	27.5	1.8	0.8	1.9	28.9
	1997/98 proj.																				
Apr.	282.8	198.2	84.6	9.0	0.6	14.5	0.1	4.4	9.1	40.9	25.6	2.4	3.6	0.5	22.7	30.8	2.0	0.8	2.0	29.4	
May	283.3	199.1	84.2	9.0	0.6	14.5	0.1	4.5	9.1	41.7	25.6	2.4	3.6	0.5	22.3	31.5	2.0	0.8	2.0	29.0	
Cotton																					
	1995/96	93.0	75.1	17.9	0.0	1.0	2.2	0.0	0.0	8.3	21.9	13.3	0.0	8.2	0.0	1.9	1.8	2.0	0.2	3.9	10.4
	1996/97 prel.	89.2	70.2	18.9	0.0	1.1	1.8	0.0	0.0	6.5	19.3	13.8	0.0	7.3	0.0	1.5	1.3	2.8	0.2	3.6	11.1
	1997/98 proj.																				
Apr.	89.2	70.4	18.8	0.0	0.9	2.2	0.0	0.0	7.3	19.7	11.2	0.0	7.0	0.0	1.9	1.9	3.0	0.2	3.3	11.7	
May	88.6	69.8	18.8	0.0	0.9	2.2	0.0	0.0	7.3	19.7	11.2	0.0	7.0	0.0	1.4	1.8	3.1	0.2	3.3	11.7	

1/ Includes wheat, coarse grains, and rice (milled) shown above.

2/ Includes soybean, cottonseed, peanut (inshell), sunflowerseed, rapeseed for individual countries. Copra and palm kernel are added to world totals.

Note: Entries of 0.0 indicate no reported or insignificant production.

May 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA



**TABLE 3**  
**Wheat Area, Yield, and Production**  
**World and Selected Countries and Regions**

Country/Region	Area			Yield			Production			Change in Production	
	Prel.		1998/99 Proj.	Prel.		1998/99 Proj.	Prel.		1998/99 Proj.	From last year	
	1996/97	1997/98	May	1996/97	1997/98	May	1996/97	1997/98	May		
	Million hectares			Metric tons per hectare			Million metric tons			MMT	Percent
World	230.99	229.71	225.24	2.52	2.66	2.65	582.75	610.69	596.95	-13.74	-2.25
United States	25.47	25.73	24.50	2.44	2.67	2.62	62.19	68.76	64.11	-4.65	-6.76
Total Foreign	205.53	203.99	200.74	2.53	2.66	2.65	520.56	541.93	532.83	-9.09	-1.68
Major Exporters	47.44	45.04	43.69	3.54	3.39	3.54	167.91	152.58	154.71	2.13	1.39
European Union	16.74	17.14	17.19	5.89	5.52	5.80	98.51	94.58	99.71	5.13	5.42
France	5.02	5.11	5.23	7.15	6.66	6.89	35.94	34.00	36.00	2.00	5.88
United Kingdom	1.98	2.04	2.14	8.15	7.39	7.94	16.10	15.05	17.00	1.95	12.96
Germany	2.59	2.73	2.77	7.29	7.28	7.22	18.92	19.87	20.00	0.13	0.67
Canada	12.26	11.40	10.60	2.43	2.13	2.26	29.80	24.30	24.00	-0.30	-1.23
Australia	11.34	10.80	10.80	2.09	1.76	1.76	23.70	19.00	19.00	0.00	0.00
Argentina	7.10	5.70	5.10	2.24	2.58	2.35	15.90	14.70	12.00	-2.70	-18.37
Major Importers	92.65	93.38	90.93	2.34	2.69	2.61	216.52	251.50	237.71	-13.79	-5.48
China	29.61	30.00	29.80	3.73	4.13	3.96	110.57	124.00	118.00	-6.00	-4.84
FSU-12	47.73	47.94	45.72	1.33	1.67	1.60	63.30	80.21	73.24	-6.97	-8.69
Russia	25.72	25.70	25.50	1.36	1.72	1.57	34.90	44.20	40.00	-4.20	-9.50
Ukraine	5.89	6.50	5.90	2.30	2.83	2.80	13.55	18.40	16.50	-1.90	-10.33
Kazakhstan	12.20	11.50	10.00	0.63	0.75	0.80	7.70	8.65	8.00	-0.65	-7.51
Baltic States	0.52	0.57	0.58	2.68	2.69	2.61	1.40	1.55	1.50	-0.04	-2.91
Eastern Europe	8.76	9.82	9.49	3.02	3.54	3.48	26.40	34.75	32.97	-1.78	-5.12
Poland	2.48	2.56	2.55	3.46	3.21	3.37	8.58	8.19	8.60	0.41	4.97
Romania	1.80	2.35	2.00	1.76	3.06	2.85	3.17	7.19	5.70	-1.49	-20.68
Egypt	1.02	1.04	1.05	5.64	5.60	5.71	5.74	5.85	6.00	0.15	2.56
Morocco	3.21	2.49	3.10	1.84	0.93	1.29	5.92	2.32	4.00	1.68	72.64
Brazil	1.81	1.51	1.20	1.77	1.87	1.67	3.20	2.83	2.00	-0.83	-29.33
Other Foreign	65.44	65.57	66.12	2.08	2.10	2.12	136.13	137.85	140.42	2.57	1.87
India	25.12	26.00	25.60	2.49	2.65	2.62	62.62	69.00	67.00	-2.00	-2.90
Turkey	8.45	8.50	8.60	1.89	1.88	1.92	16.00	16.00	16.50	0.50	3.13
Pakistan	8.38	8.11	8.30	2.02	2.05	2.11	16.91	16.65	17.50	0.85	5.11
Mexico	0.81	0.81	0.83	3.84	4.69	4.34	3.11	3.80	3.60	-0.20	-5.26
Saudi Arabia	0.27	0.34	0.34	4.53	5.36	5.37	1.20	1.80	1.80	0.00	0.00
South Africa	1.29	1.38	1.50	2.09	1.65	1.73	2.70	2.28	2.60	0.32	13.89
Others	21.13	20.43	20.95	1.59	1.39	1.50	33.60	28.31	31.42	3.10	10.96

May 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA



**TABLE 4**  
**Total Coarse Grain Area, Yield, and Production**  
**World and Selected Countries and Regions**

Country/Region	Area			Yield			Production			Change in Production	
	Prel.		1998/99 Proj.	Prel.		1998/99 Proj.	Prel.		1998/99 Proj.	From last year	Percent
	1996/97	1997/98	May	1996/97	1997/98	May	1996/97	1997/98	May		
	Million hectares			Metric tons per hectare			Million metric tons				
World	322.36	315.05	316.51	2.82	2.85	2.86	908.12	897.48	906.80	9.32	1.04
United States	38.38	37.55	37.31	6.97	7.07	7.23	267.56	265.42	269.87	4.45	1.68
Total Foreign	283.97	277.50	279.20	2.26	2.28	2.28	640.56	632.06	636.93	4.87	0.77
Major Exporters	23.57	22.44	23.12	3.01	3.14	3.08	70.90	70.38	71.08	0.70	1.00
Canada	8.00	7.63	8.00	3.52	3.31	3.36	28.19	25.22	26.85	1.64	6.48
Argentina	4.66	4.84	5.00	4.06	4.97	4.44	18.93	24.05	22.20	-1.85	-7.69
Australia	5.20	4.79	4.77	1.95	1.85	1.87	10.15	8.89	8.91	0.02	0.23
South Africa	4.34	3.95	3.99	2.19	2.16	2.26	9.53	8.53	9.03	0.50	5.84
Thailand	1.36	1.24	1.36	3.01	2.98	3.01	4.10	3.70	4.10	0.40	10.81
Major Importers	86.62	86.91	84.39	2.73	3.04	2.91	236.22	263.78	245.34	-18.45	-6.99
FSU-12	38.37	39.05	36.31	1.36	1.74	1.69	52.15	67.95	61.26	-6.70	-9.85
Russia	24.85	24.80	24.30	1.27	1.65	1.54	31.65	40.85	37.50	-3.35	-8.20
Ukraine	5.34	6.80	5.90	1.78	2.26	2.29	9.51	15.35	13.50	-1.85	-12.05
Kazakhstan	4.55	3.96	2.69	0.71	0.80	0.84	3.23	3.16	2.26	-0.90	-28.48
Baltic States	1.20	1.23	1.23	2.20	2.25	2.24	2.65	2.77	2.76	-0.01	-0.33
European Union	19.64	20.50	20.27	5.28	5.32	5.10	103.75	108.98	103.41	-5.57	-5.12
Germany	4.11	4.30	4.22	5.64	5.94	5.78	23.21	25.51	24.40	-1.11	-4.34
France	3.67	3.98	3.83	7.07	7.32	6.93	25.96	29.12	26.54	-2.58	-8.87
Eastern Europe	16.18	16.30	15.90	3.06	3.57	3.18	49.56	58.21	50.59	-7.62	-13.09
Poland	6.24	6.34	6.16	2.68	2.71	2.72	16.72	17.21	16.75	-0.46	-2.69
Romania	4.04	3.87	3.85	2.74	3.86	2.95	11.07	14.95	11.36	-3.60	-24.07
Czech Rep.	0.76	0.84	0.86	3.73	3.87	3.82	2.85	3.25	3.29	0.03	0.98
Mexico	10.86	9.45	10.30	2.43	2.57	2.50	26.33	24.25	25.75	1.50	6.19
Other W. Europe	0.38	0.38	0.38	4.74	4.29	4.17	1.79	1.62	1.58	-0.05	-2.90
Other Foreign	173.78	168.15	171.70	1.92	1.77	1.87	333.44	297.90	320.51	22.61	7.59
China	29.10	27.88	28.38	4.86	4.39	4.76	141.32	122.40	134.95	12.55	10.25
India	32.16	31.61	31.85	1.07	0.97	1.01	34.35	30.74	32.20	1.46	4.76
Brazil	14.21	13.19	14.09	2.58	2.41	2.54	36.63	31.81	35.81	4.00	12.58
Turkey	4.63	4.73	4.68	2.12	2.14	2.16	9.83	10.13	10.13	0.00	0.00
Indonesia	3.20	3.20	3.30	1.86	1.78	1.82	5.95	5.70	6.00	0.30	5.26
Philippines	2.72	2.60	2.75	1.55	1.58	1.53	4.22	4.10	4.20	0.10	2.44
Others	87.76	84.95	86.65	1.15	1.10	1.12	101.15	93.03	97.23	4.20	4.51

**TABLE 5**  
**Corn Area, Yield, and Production**  
**World and Selected Countries and Regions**

Country/Region	Area			Yield			Production			Change in Production	
	Prel.		1998/99 Proj.	Prel.		1998/99 Proj.	Prel.		1998/99 Proj.	From last year	
	1996/97	1997/98	May	1996/97	1997/98	May	1996/97	1997/98	May		
	Million hectares			Metric tons per hectare			Million metric tons			MMT	Percent
World	140.87	138.62	141.70	4.20	4.22	4.24	591.44	584.33	600.08	15.74	2.69
United States	29.60	29.83	30.11	7.97	7.97	8.13	236.06	237.90	244.87	6.97	2.93
Total Foreign	111.27	108.79	111.58	3.19	3.18	3.18	355.37	346.44	355.21	8.77	2.53
Major Exporters	7.96	7.44	7.80	3.57	4.10	3.90	28.41	30.50	30.40	-0.10	-0.33
Argentina	3.40	3.40	3.60	4.56	5.59	5.00	15.50	19.00	18.00	-1.00	-5.26
South Africa	3.36	2.96	3.00	2.68	2.71	2.83	9.01	8.00	8.50	0.50	6.25
Thailand	1.20	1.08	1.20	3.25	3.24	3.25	3.90	3.50	3.90	0.40	11.43
Major Importers	21.53	21.87	22.04	3.92	4.52	4.01	84.42	98.76	88.33	-10.44	-10.57
Eastern Europe	7.04	6.85	6.78	3.62	4.61	3.70	25.46	31.59	25.10	-6.48	-20.53
Romania	3.29	3.03	3.10	2.92	4.18	3.06	9.61	12.68	9.50	-3.18	-25.08
Yugoslavia	2.10	2.10	2.00	3.62	4.52	3.75	7.60	9.50	7.50	-2.00	-21.05
European Union	4.10	4.28	4.16	8.50	8.92	8.43	34.79	38.15	35.02	-3.13	-8.20
France	1.72	1.84	1.80	8.41	9.13	8.33	14.43	16.80	15.00	-1.80	-10.71
Italy	1.02	1.03	0.96	9.33	9.47	9.58	9.55	9.78	9.20	-0.58	-5.91
Mexico	8.23	7.40	8.00	2.30	2.43	2.38	18.92	18.00	19.00	1.00	5.56
FSU-12	2.08	3.27	3.04	2.28	3.23	2.89	4.73	10.56	8.79	-1.77	-16.77
Russia	0.70	0.80	0.80	1.57	3.38	3.13	1.10	2.70	2.50	-0.20	-7.41
Ukraine	0.67	1.65	1.40	2.74	3.21	2.86	1.84	5.30	4.00	-1.30	-24.53
Other W. Europe	0.02	0.03	0.03	8.96	8.80	8.60	0.22	0.22	0.22	-0.00	-2.27
Others	0.07	0.06	0.05	4.49	4.48	4.41	0.29	0.25	0.20	-0.05	-19.12
Other Foreign	81.78	79.48	81.74	2.97	2.73	2.89	242.55	217.17	236.49	19.31	8.89
China	24.50	23.50	24.00	5.20	4.68	5.08	127.47	110.00	122.00	12.00	10.91
Brazil	13.60	12.60	13.50	2.63	2.46	2.59	35.80	31.00	35.00	4.00	12.90
India	6.25	6.15	6.20	1.70	1.59	1.61	10.61	9.80	10.00	0.20	2.04
Canada	1.06	1.05	1.10	6.98	6.84	6.82	7.38	7.18	7.50	0.32	4.46
Indonesia	3.20	3.20	3.30	1.86	1.78	1.82	5.95	5.70	6.00	0.30	5.26
Philippines	2.72	2.60	2.75	1.55	1.58	1.53	4.22	4.10	4.20	0.10	2.44
Egypt	0.88	0.84	0.94	6.65	7.18	6.74	5.83	6.01	6.30	0.29	4.83
Zimbabwe	1.64	1.40	1.45	1.10	1.21	1.31	1.80	1.70	1.90	0.20	11.76
Others	27.94	28.14	28.50	1.56	1.48	1.53	43.49	41.68	43.59	1.90	4.56

May 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA



**TABLE 6**  
**Barley Area, Yield, and Production**  
**World and Selected Countries and Regions**

Country/Region	Area			Yield			Production			Change in Production	
	Prel.		1998/99 Proj.	Prel.		1998/99 Proj.	Prel.		1998/99 Proj.		
	1996/97	1997/98	May	1996/97	1997/98	May	1996/97	1997/98	May	From last year	
	Million hectares			Metric tons per hectare			Million metric tons				
World	66.34	65.94	64.20	2.32	2.35	2.36	153.84	155.13	151.58	MMT	Percent
United States	2.74	2.60	2.57	3.15	3.14	3.22	8.62	8.15	8.27	-3.56	-2.29
Total Foreign	63.60	63.34	61.63	2.28	2.32	2.33	145.22	146.98	143.31	0.12	1.48
European Union	11.38	11.88	11.74	4.55	4.44	4.30	51.72	52.73	50.50	-3.68	-2.50
Denmark	0.74	0.75	0.74	5.36	5.33	5.27	3.95	4.00	3.90	-2.24	-4.25
France	1.53	1.68	1.60	6.25	6.06	5.94	9.54	10.19	9.50	-0.10	-2.50
Germany	2.21	2.28	2.15	5.47	5.90	5.83	12.07	13.43	12.50	-0.69	-6.75
Italy	0.36	0.35	0.34	3.76	3.27	3.68	1.35	1.14	1.25	-0.93	-6.90
Spain	3.53	3.71	3.90	2.72	2.32	2.18	9.60	8.60	8.50	0.12	10.13
United Kingdom	1.27	1.33	1.25	6.14	5.91	6.00	7.78	7.85	7.50	-0.10	-1.16
FSU-12	20.54	20.88	19.22	1.35	1.63	1.64	27.76	34.09	31.47	-0.35	-4.46
Russia	11.85	12.50	12.50	1.34	1.66	1.56	15.90	20.80	19.50	-2.63	-7.70
Ukraine	3.43	3.70	3.20	1.67	2.00	2.19	5.73	7.40	7.00	-1.30	-6.25
Kazakhstan	3.60	3.20	2.10	0.75	0.81	0.86	2.70	2.60	1.80	-0.40	-5.41
Baltic States	0.81	0.83	0.83	2.30	2.33	2.33	1.87	1.94	1.93	-0.80	-30.77
Eastern Europe	3.31	3.65	3.47	2.92	3.29	3.26	9.69	12.00	11.31	-0.01	-0.52
Poland	1.13	1.24	1.20	3.04	3.11	3.17	3.44	3.87	3.80	-0.69	-5.75
Czech Rep.	0.60	0.65	0.68	3.77	3.93	3.85	2.26	2.54	2.60	-0.07	-1.71
Romania	0.50	0.62	0.53	2.22	3.06	2.86	1.11	1.89	1.50	0.06	2.56
Canada	4.89	4.70	4.70	3.18	2.90	2.98	15.56	13.65	14.00	-0.39	-20.59
Other W. Europe	0.23	0.23	0.23	4.49	4.00	3.91	1.03	0.92	0.90	0.35	2.56
Norway	0.18	0.18	0.18	3.83	3.54	3.43	0.67	0.62	0.60	-0.02	-2.17
Turkey	3.65	3.70	3.60	1.97	2.00	2.00	7.20	7.40	7.20	-0.02	-3.23
Australia	3.41	3.25	3.20	2.00	1.85	1.88	6.81	6.00	6.00	-0.20	-2.70
China	1.30	1.30	1.20	3.08	3.08	3.17	4.00	4.00	3.80	0.00	0.00
Morocco	2.43	2.00	2.30	1.58	0.66	0.87	3.83	1.32	2.00	-0.20	-5.00
India	0.82	0.76	0.85	1.83	1.89	2.00	1.51	1.44	1.70	0.68	51.06
Others	10.83	10.17	10.29	1.32	1.13	1.22	14.24	11.49	12.51	0.26	18.38
										1.02	8.86

May 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

**TABLE 7**  
**Oats Area, Yield, and Production**  
**World and Selected Countries and Regions**

Country/Region	Area			Yield			Production			Change in Production	
	1996/97	Prel. 1997/98	1998/99 Proj. May	1996/97	Prel. 1997/98	1998/99 Proj. May	1996/97	Prel. 1997/98	1998/99 Proj. May		From last year
	Million hectares			Metric tons per hectare			Million metric tons			MMT	Percent
World	17.69	17.03	16.72	1.73	1.81	1.80	30.59	30.87	30.11	-0.76	-2.45
United States	1.09	1.18	1.24	2.07	2.17	2.11	2.25	2.56	2.61	0.06	2.23
Total Foreign	16.60	15.85	15.48	1.71	1.79	1.78	28.34	28.31	27.50	-0.81	-2.87
FSU-12	8.17	7.79	7.12	1.23	1.47	1.40	10.03	11.48	9.98	-1.50	-13.06
Russia	6.93	6.50	6.00	1.20	1.45	1.33	8.30	9.40	8.00	-1.40	-14.89
Ukraine	0.48	0.55	0.50	1.51	1.82	2.00	0.73	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
Belarus	0.30	0.34	0.30	2.33	2.06	2.33	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.00	0.00
Baltic States	0.16	0.16	0.16	2.04	2.13	2.13	0.32	0.34	0.34	0.00	1.19
Maj. Foreign Exporters	3.02	2.65	2.85	2.11	1.99	2.09	6.37	5.29	5.95	0.67	12.58
Canada	1.68	1.50	1.75	2.59	2.32	2.46	4.36	3.49	4.30	0.82	23.39
Australia	1.09	0.85	0.83	1.56	1.53	1.58	1.70	1.30	1.30	0.00	0.00
Argentina	0.25	0.30	0.28	1.24	1.67	1.27	0.31	0.50	0.35	-0.15	-30.00
Other Foreign	5.62	5.62	5.72	2.29	2.21	2.18	12.87	12.45	12.47	0.03	0.20
China	0.50	0.45	0.55	1.20	0.89	1.18	0.60	0.40	0.65	0.25	62.50
European Union	1.94	1.99	1.95	3.56	3.33	3.31	6.89	6.63	6.47	-0.16	-2.43
France	0.14	0.13	0.13	4.41	4.24	4.38	0.62	0.56	0.57	0.01	1.06
Germany	0.30	0.31	0.30	5.32	5.13	5.00	1.51	1.59	1.50	-0.09	-5.60
Italy	0.14	0.14	0.14	2.46	2.01	2.00	0.35	0.28	0.28	-0.00	-1.06
Finland	0.37	0.37	0.37	3.37	3.37	3.38	1.26	1.24	1.25	0.01	0.56
Sweden	0.28	0.32	0.30	4.32	4.05	4.00	1.20	1.28	1.20	-0.07	-5.88
Eastern Europe	1.16	1.15	1.17	2.19	2.33	2.25	2.54	2.68	2.63	-0.05	-1.87
Czech Rep.	0.07	0.08	0.07	3.24	3.21	3.21	0.21	0.25	0.23	-0.03	-10.00
Poland	0.63	0.63	0.65	2.53	2.60	2.54	1.58	1.63	1.65	0.02	1.23
Yugoslavia	0.13	0.13	0.13	1.85	1.85	1.84	0.24	0.24	0.23	-0.01	-4.17
Norway	0.10	0.10	0.10	4.18	3.59	3.37	0.40	0.34	0.32	-0.02	-6.16
Turkey	0.15	0.14	0.15	1.72	1.79	1.72	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00
Others	1.41	1.43	1.43	0.66	0.63	0.63	0.93	0.90	0.90	0.00	0.00

May 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA



**TABLE 8**  
**Rye Area, Yield, and Production**  
**World and Selected Countries and Regions**

Country/Region	Area			Yield			Production			Change in Production	
	Prel.			Prel.			Prel.				
	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99 Proj. May	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99 Proj. May	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99 Proj. May	From last year	
	Million hectares			Metric tons per hectare			Million metric tons			MMT Percent	
World	10.76	10.39	10.46	2.07	2.35	2.25	22.23	24.47	23.54	-0.93	-3.80
United States	0.14	0.14	0.17	1.64	1.64	1.66	0.23	0.23	0.27	0.05	21.24
Total Foreign	10.62	10.26	10.29	2.07	2.36	2.26	22.00	24.25	23.27	-0.98	-4.03
FSU-12	5.96	5.67	5.58	1.51	1.94	1.73	9.00	11.02	9.67	-1.35	-12.25
Russia	4.13	4.00	4.00	1.43	1.88	1.63	5.90	7.50	6.50	-1.00	-13.33
Ukraine	0.63	0.70	0.60	1.75	1.93	2.00	1.10	1.35	1.20	-0.15	-11.11
Belarus	1.05	0.89	0.90	1.81	2.36	2.11	1.90	2.10	1.90	-0.20	-9.52
Baltic States	0.23	0.24	0.24	1.98	2.08	2.04	0.46	0.49	0.49	-0.00	-0.61
Major Exporter											
Canada	0.16	0.16	0.23	1.91	1.94	1.96	0.31	0.30	0.45	0.15	50.00
Other Foreign	4.27	4.20	4.24	2.86	2.96	2.98	12.23	12.43	12.66	0.23	1.82
Eastern Europe	2.66	2.55	2.54	2.32	2.33	2.36	6.16	5.94	6.00	0.06	0.94
Hungary	0.07	0.07	0.07	1.43	2.00	1.79	0.10	0.14	0.13	-0.02	-10.71
Poland	2.42	2.30	2.30	2.34	2.31	2.35	5.65	5.30	5.40	0.10	1.89
Czech Rep.	0.06	0.08	0.08	3.19	3.49	3.47	0.20	0.27	0.26	-0.00	-1.89
European Union	1.32	1.34	1.39	4.30	4.52	4.47	5.68	6.07	6.24	0.17	2.80
Denmark	0.07	0.09	0.08	4.76	5.33	5.00	0.34	0.48	0.40	-0.08	-16.67
France	0.05	0.05	0.05	4.59	4.40	4.56	0.23	0.21	0.21	-0.00	-0.97
Germany	0.81	0.85	0.90	5.21	5.43	5.33	4.21	4.59	4.80	0.21	4.67
Spain	0.17	0.15	0.15	1.74	1.48	1.50	0.30	0.23	0.23	0.00	0.00
Austria	0.05	0.06	0.06	2.96	3.63	3.64	0.15	0.21	0.20	-0.01	-3.38
Sweden	0.03	0.03	0.04	5.52	5.17	5.00	0.18	0.15	0.18	0.02	16.67
Turkey	0.18	0.18	0.18	1.39	1.39	1.39	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00
Others	0.11	0.13	0.13	1.15	1.40	1.40	0.13	0.18	0.18	0.00	0.00

May 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

**TABLE 9**  
**Sorghum Area, Yield, and Production**  
**World and Selected Countries and Regions**

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production	
	Prel.		1998/99 Proj.		Prel.		1998/99 Proj.		Prel.		1998/99 Proj.		From last year	
	1996/97	1997/98	May	May	1996/97	1997/98	May	May	1996/97	1997/98	May	May		
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	
World	44.80	40.81	41.72		1.56	1.53	1.47		69.68	62.43	61.38		-1.05	-1.69
United States	4.82	3.80	3.22		4.24	4.37	4.30		20.40	16.59	13.84		-2.75	-16.55
Total Foreign	39.98	37.01	38.50		1.23	1.24	1.23		49.28	45.84	47.53		1.69	3.70
India	11.57	11.20	11.50		0.96	0.80	0.87		11.09	9.00	10.00		1.00	11.11
China	1.29	1.23	1.23		4.39	4.07	4.47		5.68	5.00	5.50		0.50	10.00
Mexico	2.32	1.75	2.00		2.95	3.31	3.15		6.86	5.80	6.30		0.50	8.62
Nigeria	6.45	6.50	6.60		1.02	1.08	1.05		6.60	7.00	6.90		-0.10	-1.43
Sudan	6.30	4.20	5.00		0.67	0.81	0.74		4.20	3.40	3.70		0.30	8.82
Argentina	0.68	0.75	0.75		3.70	4.67	4.00		2.50	3.50	3.00		-0.50	-14.29
Australia	0.56	0.56	0.60		2.15	2.13	2.00		1.21	1.20	1.20		0.00	0.00
Ethiopia	1.85	1.80	1.80		1.08	1.11	1.11		2.00	2.00	2.00		0.00	0.00
Colombia	0.10	0.06	0.04		3.05	2.50	3.00		0.29	0.15	0.12		-0.03	-20.00
Venezuela	0.20	0.26	0.25		2.16	1.56	1.63		0.44	0.41	0.40		-0.01	-2.44
Egypt	0.14	0.16	0.16		4.35	4.91	4.97		0.60	0.77	0.77		0.00	0.52
Yemen	0.45	0.45	0.45		1.00	1.00	1.00		0.45	0.45	0.45		0.00	0.00
Tanzania	0.67	0.63	0.65		1.32	0.80	1.00		0.88	0.50	0.65		0.15	30.00
Niger	1.50	1.40	1.40		0.27	0.30	0.30		0.40	0.43	0.43		0.00	0.00
South Africa	0.16	0.14	0.14		1.88	2.14	2.14		0.30	0.30	0.30		0.00	0.00
Thailand	0.16	0.16	0.16		1.25	1.25	1.25		0.20	0.20	0.20		0.00	0.00
Others	5.58	5.77	5.78		1.00	0.99	0.97		5.60	5.74	5.62		-0.12	-2.09

May 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA



**TABLE 10**  
**Rice Area, Yield, and Production**  
**World and Selected Countries and Regions**

Country/Region	Area					Yield (Rough)					Production (Milled)					Change in Production			
	Prel.		1997/98 Proj.			Prel.		1997/98 Proj.			Prel.		1997/98 Proj.			From last month		From last year	
	1995/96	1996/97	Apr.	May	1995/96	1996/97	Apr.	May	1995/96	1996/97	Apr.	May	1995/96	1996/97	Apr.	May	MMT	Percent	MMT
	Million hectares					Metric tons per hectare					Million metric tons								
World	148.06	148.99	148.67	148.47	3.72	3.78	3.80	3.79	371.24	379.98	381.37	380.29	-1.08	-0.28	0.32	0.08			
United States	1.25	1.13	1.23	1.23	6.30	6.86	6.61	6.61	5.63	5.45	5.84	5.84	0.00	0.00	0.39	7.19			
Total Foreign	146.81	147.86	147.44	147.24	3.70	3.76	3.78	3.77	365.61	374.52	375.53	374.45	-1.08	-0.29	-0.07	-0.02			
Major Exporters	23.98	24.08	24.11	24.18	2.98	2.91	2.94	2.93	45.87	44.97	45.56	45.56	0.00	0.00	0.60	1.32			
Vietnam	7.12	7.05	7.10	7.10	3.76	3.87	3.84	3.80	17.68	18.00	18.00	17.80	-0.20	-1.11	-0.20	-1.11			
Thailand	9.03	9.18	9.20	9.27	2.41	2.26	2.36	2.37	14.39	13.66	14.30	14.50	0.20	1.40	0.84	6.13			
Burma	5.67	5.60	5.49	5.49	3.00	2.77	2.80	2.80	9.86	9.00	8.90	8.90	0.00	0.00	-0.10	-1.11			
Pakistan	2.16	2.25	2.32	2.32	2.73	2.87	2.83	2.83	3.94	4.31	4.36	4.36	0.00	0.00	0.06	1.32			
Major Importers	16.05	15.61	15.31	15.31	4.09	4.13	4.11	4.11	43.55	43.11	42.08	42.07	-0.01	-0.01	-1.04	-2.41			
Indonesia	11.57	11.07	10.80	10.80	4.42	4.45	4.40	4.40	33.22	32.02	30.90	30.90	0.00	0.00	-1.11	-3.48			
South Korea	1.06	1.05	1.05	1.05	6.05	6.85	7.01	7.01	4.69	5.32	5.45	5.45	0.00	0.00	0.13	2.44			
European Union	0.36	0.41	0.41	0.41	5.54	5.94	6.23	6.19	1.23	1.58	1.68	1.67	-0.01	-0.36	0.09	5.76			
Iran	0.57	0.60	0.60	0.60	4.08	4.00	4.00	4.00	1.55	1.60	1.60	1.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00			
Nigeria	1.70	1.66	1.65	1.65	2.22	1.96	1.87	1.87	2.26	1.95	1.85	1.85	0.00	0.00	-0.10	-5.13			
Other Foreign	106.78	108.18	108.03	107.76	4.05	4.14	4.17	4.16	276.19	286.45	287.89	286.82	-1.07	-0.37	0.37	0.13			
China	30.75	31.41	31.80	31.80	6.02	6.21	6.22	6.22	129.65	136.57	138.50	138.50	0.00	0.00	1.93	1.41			
India	42.30	42.70	42.20	42.20	2.82	2.85	2.91	2.91	79.62	81.20	82.00	82.00	0.00	0.00	0.80	0.99			
Bangladesh	9.94	10.41	10.62	10.62	2.67	2.72	2.58	2.58	17.69	18.88	18.23	18.23	0.00	0.00	-0.66	-3.48			
Japan	2.12	1.98	1.95	1.95	6.34	6.54	6.42	6.42	9.78	9.41	9.12	9.12	0.00	0.00	-0.29	-3.08			
Brazil	3.88	3.57	3.55	3.40	2.59	2.73	2.69	2.60	6.83	6.63	6.50	6.00	-0.50	-7.69	-0.63	-9.47			
Philippines	3.92	3.91	3.70	3.65	2.85	2.86	2.91	2.87	7.26	7.27	7.00	6.80	-0.20	-2.86	-0.46	-6.40			
Egypt	0.56	0.59	0.63	0.63	7.86	8.29	7.94	7.94	2.60	2.99	2.96	2.96	0.00	0.00	-0.03	-1.14			
Taiwan	0.36	0.35	0.37	0.37	5.71	5.04	4.87	4.87	1.52	1.42	1.44	1.44	0.00	0.00	0.02	1.41			
FSU-12	0.51	0.48	0.45	0.45	2.36	2.24	2.64	2.64	0.78	0.70	0.76	0.76	0.00	0.00	0.06	8.68			
Russia	0.17	0.17	0.16	0.16	2.70	2.36	2.07	2.07	0.30	0.25	0.22	0.22	0.00	0.00	-0.04	-15.02			
Australia	0.15	0.17	0.14	0.14	6.38	8.36	8.57	8.57	0.68	0.99	0.87	0.87	0.00	0.00	-0.12	-12.30			
Others	12.29	12.61	12.63	12.56	2.95	3.02	3.03	3.00	19.78	20.38	20.51	20.14	-0.37	-1.81	-0.24	-1.20			

May 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

**TABLE 11**  
**Total Oilseed Area, Yield, and Production**  
**World and Selected Countries and Regions**

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
	Prel.		1997/98 Proj.		Prel.		1997/98 Proj.		Prel.		1997/98 Proj.		From last month		From last year	
	1995/96	1996/97	Apr.	May	1995/96	1996/97	Apr.	May	1995/96	1996/97	Apr.	May	MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World Total 1/ Total Foreign 1/ Copra Palm Kernel	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	259.71	261.69	282.79	283.34	0.55	0.19	21.66	8.28
	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	190.61	186.86	198.24	199.10	0.86	0.43	12.24	6.55
	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	5.03	5.81	5.67	5.66	-0.02	-0.28	-0.15	-2.65
	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	4.98	5.30	5.38	5.38	0.00	0.02	0.08	1.45
Major Oilseeds 2/ United States 2/	164.65	161.35	168.30	168.13	1.52	1.55	1.61	1.62	249.70	250.57	271.74	272.30	0.56	0.21	21.73	8.67
	33.57	32.58	35.67	35.66	2.06	2.30	2.37	2.36	69.10	74.83	84.55	84.24	-0.31	-0.37	9.42	12.59
Foreign Oilseeds 2/ South America	131.08	128.77	132.64	132.47	1.38	1.36	1.41	1.42	180.60	175.75	187.19	188.06	0.88	0.47	12.31	7.01
Brazil	25.03	25.27	27.91	27.79	1.94	1.96	2.09	2.11	48.47	49.43	58.44	58.59	0.15	0.25	9.15	18.52
Argentina	12.19	12.61	13.94	14.04	2.05	2.18	2.21	2.25	24.99	27.45	30.83	31.53	0.70	2.27	4.07	14.83
Paraguay	10.38	10.26	11.31	11.11	1.85	1.70	2.00	2.01	19.24	17.46	22.65	22.33	-0.32	-1.41	4.87	27.89
China	1.48	1.38	1.59	1.57	1.81	2.13	1.98	1.85	2.68	2.93	3.15	2.91	-0.24	-7.47	-0.02	-0.58
India	25.08	23.23	23.51	23.51	1.73	1.78	1.74	1.77	43.33	41.45	40.89	41.71	0.82	2.01	0.26	0.64
European Union	30.40	31.42	31.30	31.30	0.82	0.85	0.82	0.82	24.93	26.62	25.55	25.55	0.00	0.00	-1.07	-4.03
France	5.97	5.83	5.92	5.91	2.20	2.19	2.45	2.45	13.14	12.78	14.47	14.47	-0.00	-0.01	1.70	13.28
Italy	1.92	1.87	1.97	1.97	2.53	2.74	2.94	2.94	4.86	5.11	5.78	5.78	0.00	0.00	0.67	13.11
Germany	0.47	0.58	0.61	0.61	2.60	2.57	2.80	2.80	1.22	1.49	1.71	1.71	0.00	0.00	0.22	14.68
Spain	1.03	0.90	0.94	0.94	3.15	2.31	3.09	3.09	3.24	2.08	2.90	2.90	0.00	0.00	0.82	39.32
United Kingdom	1.09	1.17	1.13	1.13	0.62	1.17	1.04	1.04	0.68	1.38	1.17	1.17	0.00	0.00	-0.21	-15.18
FSU-12	0.44	0.41	0.44	0.44	3.03	3.42	3.39	3.39	1.33	1.41	1.50	1.50	0.00	0.00	0.09	6.38
Russia	10.09	9.96	9.53	9.53	1.12	0.86	0.95	0.95	11.28	8.54	9.09	9.10	0.00	0.05	0.56	6.61
Ukraine	4.86	4.65	4.07	4.07	0.95	0.69	0.77	0.77	4.62	3.19	3.14	3.14	0.00	0.00	-0.06	-1.79
Uzbekistan	2.04	2.15	2.24	2.24	1.42	0.99	1.04	1.04	2.90	2.13	2.33	2.33	0.00	0.00	0.20	9.38
Turkmenistan	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.47	1.38	1.57	1.57	2.20	2.07	2.35	2.35	0.00	0.00	0.28	13.53
Canada	0.45	0.45	0.55	0.55	1.22	0.58	0.73	0.73	0.55	0.26	0.40	0.40	0.00	0.00	0.14	53.85
Indonesia	6.14	4.35	5.90	5.90	1.43	1.68	1.52	1.52	8.80	7.28	8.97	8.97	0.00	0.00	1.68	23.09
Pakistan	1.99	1.86	1.83	1.83	1.30	1.29	1.31	1.31	2.58	2.41	2.41	2.41	0.00	0.00	-0.00	-0.04
Eastern Europe	3.54	3.73	3.45	3.45	1.14	0.99	1.03	1.03	4.03	3.68	3.57	3.57	0.00	0.00	-0.11	-2.99
Poland	3.11	3.05	2.83	2.83	1.71	1.53	1.54	1.57	5.32	4.66	4.37	4.45	0.08	1.92	-0.21	-4.52
Romania	0.61	0.28	0.32	0.32	2.27	1.59	1.84	1.84	1.38	0.45	0.59	0.59	0.00	0.00	0.14	31.40
Hungary	0.79	0.99	0.83	0.83	1.32	1.31	1.23	1.23	1.04	1.30	1.02	1.02	0.00	0.00	-0.28	-21.22
Turkey	0.53	0.57	0.51	0.51	1.48	1.67	1.66	1.66	0.79	0.95	0.85	0.85	0.00	0.00	-0.10	-10.34
Philippines	1.46	1.37	1.28	1.28	1.49	1.41	1.53	1.53	2.18	1.93	1.95	1.95	0.00	0.00	0.03	1.30
Mexico	0.06	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.83	0.87	0.91	0.91	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.01	13.04
Others	0.52	0.38	0.42	0.41	1.33	1.42	1.50	1.55	0.69	0.55	0.63	0.63	0.00	0.64	0.08	15.20
	17.68	18.26	18.70	18.67	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.89	15.83	16.39	16.80	16.62	-0.18	-1.07	0.23	1.43

1/ Major oilseeds plus copra and palm kernel. 2/ Individual countries and regions include soybean, cottonseed, peanut (inshell), sunflowerseed, and rapeseed.

May 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA



**TABLE 12**  
**Soybean Area, Yield, and Production**  
**World and Selected Countries and Regions**

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
	Prel.		1997/98 Proj.		Prel.		1997/98 Proj.		Prel.		1997/98 Proj.		From last month		From last year	
	1995/96	1996/97	Apr.	May	1995/96	1996/97	Apr.	May	1995/96	1996/97	Apr.	May	MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons							
World	61.69	63.18	69.39	69.39	2.03	2.08	2.19	2.20	124.96	131.65	152.21	152.60	0.40	0.26	20.95	15.91
United States	24.94	25.66	28.28	28.28	2.38	2.53	2.62	2.62	59.24	64.84	74.22	74.22	0.00	0.00	9.39	14.48
Total Foreign	36.75	37.52	41.11	41.11	1.79	1.78	1.90	1.91	65.71	66.82	77.98	78.38	0.40	0.51	11.56	17.31
Major Exporters																
Brazil	18.03	19.20	21.00	21.10	2.16	2.12	2.33	2.34	38.98	40.77	48.90	49.40	0.50	1.02	8.63	21.16
Argentina	10.95	11.80	12.90	13.00	2.21	2.27	2.33	2.36	24.15	26.80	30.00	30.70	0.70	2.33	3.90	14.55
Paraguay	5.98	6.20	6.80	6.80	2.08	1.81	2.35	2.35	12.43	11.20	16.00	16.00	0.00	0.00	4.80	42.86
	1.10	1.20	1.30	1.30	2.18	2.31	2.23	2.08	2.40	2.77	2.90	2.70	-0.20	-6.90	-0.07	-2.56
Other Foreign																
China	18.72	18.32	20.11	20.01	1.43	1.42	1.45	1.45	26.73	26.04	29.08	28.98	-0.10	-0.36	2.94	11.27
India	8.13	7.47	8.25	8.25	1.66	1.77	1.67	1.67	13.50	13.22	13.80	13.80	0.00	0.00	0.58	4.39
Canada	4.82	5.00	5.60	5.60	0.93	0.82	0.96	0.96	4.48	4.10	5.35	5.35	0.00	0.00	1.25	30.49
Indonesia	0.82	0.86	1.05	1.05	2.78	2.52	2.57	2.57	2.29	2.17	2.70	2.70	0.00	0.00	0.54	24.71
Eastern Europe	1.28	1.18	1.15	1.15	1.19	1.19	1.22	1.22	1.52	1.40	1.40	1.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
European Union	0.17	0.20	0.16	0.16	1.73	1.69	2.18	2.18	0.29	0.34	0.36	0.36	0.00	0.00	0.01	3.78
FSU-12	0.29	0.34	0.42	0.42	3.23	3.44	3.38	3.38	0.94	1.15	1.43	1.43	0.00	0.00	0.28	24.02
Russia	0.55	0.55	0.45	0.45	0.66	0.62	0.62	0.62	0.36	0.34	0.28	0.28	0.00	0.00	-0.06	-18.18
Ukraine	0.49	0.49	0.39	0.39	0.60	0.58	0.56	0.56	0.29	0.28	0.22	0.22	0.00	0.00	-0.06	-21.99
Mexico	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.03	1.30	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Thailand	0.13	0.05	0.14	0.12	1.43	1.17	1.25	1.47	0.19	0.06	0.18	0.18	0.00	0.00	0.11	186.89
North Korea	0.28	0.29	0.28	0.28	1.30	1.26	1.29	1.29	0.37	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Japan	0.32	0.33	0.33	0.33	1.25	1.23	1.08	1.08	0.40	0.40	0.35	0.35	0.00	0.00	-0.05	-12.50
Bolivia	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	1.72	1.71	1.71	1.71	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
South Korea	0.45	0.55	0.63	0.63	2.02	1.83	2.00	2.00	0.90	1.00	1.26	1.26	0.00	0.00	0.26	26.00
Colombia	0.11	0.10	0.10	0.10	1.52	1.63	1.56	1.56	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.00	0.00	-0.00	-2.50
Others	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.03	2.06	2.00	1.67	1.67	0.07	0.07	0.05	0.05	0.00	0.00	-0.02	-28.57
	1.28	1.31	1.44	1.36	0.90	0.88	0.90	0.88	1.15	1.15	1.30	1.19	-0.10	-8.02	0.04	3.74

**TABLE 13**  
**Cottonseed Area, Yield, and Production**  
**World and Selected Countries and Regions**

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
	Prel.				Prel.				Prel.				From last month			
	1995/96	1996/97	Apr.	May	1995/96	1996/97	Apr.	May	1995/96	1996/97	Apr.	May	MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	35.88	33.78	33.60	33.43	1.00	1.02	1.03	1.01	35.93	34.37	34.47	33.91	-0.56	-1.62	-0.46	-1.33
United States	6.48	5.21	5.38	5.37	0.96	1.24	1.23	1.17	6.21	6.48	6.60	6.29	-0.31	-4.73	-0.19	-2.93
Total Foreign	29.41	28.57	28.23	28.06	1.01	0.98	0.99	0.98	29.72	27.89	27.87	27.62	-0.25	-0.88	-0.27	-0.96
China	5.42	4.72	4.50	4.50	1.58	1.60	1.72	1.72	8.58	7.56	7.72	7.72	0.00	0.00	0.16	2.12
FSU-12	2.57	2.52	2.58	2.58	1.28	1.10	1.22	1.22	3.30	2.77	3.15	3.16	0.01	0.16	0.39	13.98
Uzbekistan	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.47	1.38	1.57	1.57	2.20	2.07	2.35	2.35	0.00	0.00	0.28	13.53
Turkmenistan	0.45	0.45	0.55	0.55	1.22	0.58	0.73	0.73	0.55	0.26	0.40	0.40	0.00	0.00	0.14	53.85
India	9.06	9.17	9.00	9.00	0.62	0.64	0.53	0.53	5.65	5.88	4.80	4.80	0.00	0.00	-1.08	-18.37
Pakistan	3.05	3.20	2.90	2.90	1.17	0.99	1.05	1.05	3.57	3.18	3.05	3.05	0.00	0.00	-0.13	-4.06
Brazil	1.13	0.70	0.92	0.92	0.58	0.71	0.71	0.71	0.66	0.49	0.65	0.65	0.00	0.00	0.16	32.65
Turkey	0.76	0.74	0.70	0.70	1.68	1.58	1.55	1.55	1.28	1.18	1.09	1.09	0.00	0.00	-0.09	-7.66
African Franc Zone	1.61	1.91	2.00	2.06	0.74	0.72	0.76	0.75	1.19	1.37	1.52	1.53	0.02	0.99	0.17	12.31
Australia	0.30	0.40	0.43	0.43	1.98	2.18	2.09	2.09	0.60	0.86	0.90	0.90	0.00	0.00	0.04	4.65
Egypt	0.31	0.39	0.36	0.36	1.27	1.52	1.53	1.33	0.39	0.59	0.55	0.48	-0.07	-12.73	-0.11	-18.64
Argentina	0.96	0.88	1.00	0.80	0.78	0.64	0.70	0.73	0.74	0.56	0.70	0.58	-0.12	-17.14	0.02	3.57
Paraguay	0.31	0.11	0.22	0.20	0.60	0.64	0.70	0.60	0.19	0.07	0.16	0.12	-0.04	-22.58	0.05	79.10
Greece	0.44	0.42	0.39	0.39	1.52	1.13	1.49	1.49	0.67	0.48	0.58	0.58	0.00	0.00	0.11	22.11
Syria	0.20	0.22	0.25	0.25	2.28	2.39	2.82	2.82	0.45	0.53	0.71	0.71	0.00	0.00	0.18	34.29
Mexico	0.32	0.25	0.20	0.20	1.31	1.50	1.85	1.65	0.42	0.37	0.37	0.33	-0.04	-11.08	-0.04	-10.60
Colombia	0.11	0.09	0.06	0.06	1.25	1.24	1.13	1.13	0.14	0.11	0.07	0.07	0.00	0.00	-0.04	-37.61
Sudan	0.22	0.28	0.27	0.27	1.13	0.82	0.79	0.79	0.25	0.23	0.21	0.21	0.00	0.00	-0.02	-8.70
Others	2.64	2.60	2.44	2.44	0.63	0.65	0.68	0.68	1.67	1.69	1.66	1.66	-0.00	-0.00	-0.03	-1.90



**TABLE 14**  
**Peanut Area, Yield, and Production**  
**World and Selected Countries and Regions**

Country/Region	Area			Yield			Production			Change in Production						
	1995/96	Prel. 1996/97	1997/98 Proj. Apr. May	Prel. 1995/96	1996/97	1997/98 Proj. Apr. May	Prel. 1995/96	1996/97	1997/98 Proj. Apr. May	From last month	From last year					
		Million hectares		Metric tons per hectare			Million metric tons			MMT	Percent					
World	21.82	22.12	22.34	22.35	1.30	1.31	1.24	1.28	28.40	28.98	27.74	28.60	0.86	3.12	-0.38	-1.31
United States	0.61	0.56	0.57	0.57	2.56	2.98	2.81	2.81	1.57	1.66	1.60	1.60	0.00	0.00	-0.06	-3.43
Total Foreign	21.21	21.57	21.77	21.78	1.27	1.27	1.20	1.24	26.83	27.32	26.13	27.00	0.86	3.31	-0.32	-1.18
China	3.81	3.62	3.74	3.74	2.68	2.80	2.36	2.58	10.20	10.14	8.80	9.62	0.82	9.32	-0.52	-5.13
India	7.80	8.20	8.10	8.10	0.95	1.00	0.99	0.99	7.40	8.20	8.00	8.00	0.00	0.00	-0.20	-2.44
Indonesia	0.69	0.66	0.66	0.66	1.53	1.52	1.52	1.52	1.06	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Senegal	0.88	0.92	0.79	0.79	0.94	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.83	0.65	0.55	0.55	0.00	0.00	-0.10	-14.86
Burma	0.50	0.52	0.53	0.53	1.01	1.10	1.11	1.11	0.50	0.57	0.59	0.59	0.00	0.00	0.02	3.87
Sudan	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.67	0.67	0.67	0.67	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Zaire	0.73	0.73	0.73	0.73	0.80	0.77	0.77	0.77	0.58	0.56	0.56	0.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Argentina	0.24	0.28	0.41	0.41	1.93	1.09	1.83	1.83	0.46	0.30	0.75	0.75	0.00	0.00	0.45	150.00
Nigeria	1.77	1.83	2.00	2.00	0.89	0.94	0.88	0.88	1.58	1.72	1.75	1.75	0.00	0.00	0.03	1.57
Vietnam	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	1.28	1.31	1.31	1.31	0.33	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
South Africa	0.14	0.10	0.06	0.06	1.43	1.47	1.45	1.45	0.19	0.14	0.08	0.08	0.00	0.00	-0.06	-42.86
Thailand	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	1.52	1.49	1.50	1.50	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.00	0.00	-0.00	-1.32
Burkina Faso	0.26	0.25	0.24	0.24	0.82	0.80	0.83	0.83	0.21	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Brazil	0.08	0.09	0.09	0.09	1.93	1.55	1.67	1.67	0.15	0.14	0.15	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.01	8.70
Central African Rep.	0.09	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.95	0.94	1.00	1.00	0.09	0.09	0.10	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.01	9.89
Cameroon	0.35	0.42	0.42	0.42	0.29	0.41	0.41	0.41	0.10	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.58
Cote d'Ivoire	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	1.05	1.07	1.04	1.04	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-3.33
Mexico	0.07	0.08	0.07	0.08	1.26	1.40	1.07	1.50	0.08	0.11	0.08	0.12	0.05	60.00	0.01	7.14
Gambia	0.08	0.06	0.08	0.08	0.96	0.72	0.85	0.85	0.08	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.02	39.13
Others	2.69	2.68	2.72	2.72	0.86	0.85	0.84	0.84	2.32	2.27	2.29	2.29	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.57

**TABLE 15**  
**Sunflowerseed Area, Yield, and Production**  
**World and Selected Countries and Regions**

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
	Prel.				Prel.				Prel.				From last month			
	1995/96	1996/97	Apr.	May	1995/96	1996/97	Apr.	May	1995/96	1996/97	Apr.	May	MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	20.84	20.11	19.75	19.74	1.24	1.20	1.20	1.19	25.89	24.13	23.66	23.44	-0.22	-0.91	-0.69	-2.87
United States	1.36	1.01	1.15	1.15	1.33	1.61	1.48	1.48	1.82	1.63	1.71	1.71	0.00	0.00	0.08	4.92
Total Foreign	19.47	19.10	18.60	18.59	1.24	1.18	1.18	1.17	24.07	22.51	21.95	21.73	-0.22	-0.98	-0.77	-3.43
FSU-12	6.56	6.59	6.17	6.17	1.13	0.79	0.88	0.88	7.38	5.21	5.43	5.43	0.00	0.00	0.22	4.22
Russia	4.10	4.00	3.50	3.50	1.02	0.70	0.80	0.80	4.20	2.80	2.80	2.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ukraine	2.00	2.11	2.20	2.20	1.43	0.99	1.05	1.05	2.85	2.10	2.30	2.30	0.00	0.00	0.20	9.52
Argentina	3.20	2.90	3.10	3.10	1.75	1.86	1.68	1.61	5.60	5.40	5.20	5.00	-0.20	-3.85	-0.40	-7.41
European Union	2.39	2.35	2.29	2.28	1.34	1.65	1.63	1.64	3.21	3.89	3.73	3.73	-0.00	-0.05	-0.16	-4.01
France	0.98	0.92	0.90	0.90	1.95	2.19	2.35	2.35	1.90	2.00	2.10	2.10	0.00	0.00	0.10	5.00
Spain	0.98	0.99	0.96	0.96	0.59	1.15	0.94	0.94	0.58	1.14	0.90	0.90	0.00	0.00	-0.24	-21.05
Italy	0.25	0.26	0.26	0.26	2.00	2.01	2.00	2.00	0.50	0.52	0.52	0.52	0.00	0.00	-0.00	-0.57
Eastern Europe	1.95	2.14	1.91	1.91	1.42	1.42	1.35	1.35	2.76	3.04	2.57	2.58	0.01	0.31	-0.47	-15.38
Hungary	0.49	0.48	0.42	0.42	1.49	1.68	1.67	1.67	0.73	0.80	0.70	0.70	0.00	0.00	-0.10	-12.50
Romania	0.72	0.91	0.77	0.77	1.30	1.30	1.17	1.17	0.93	1.18	0.90	0.90	0.00	0.00	-0.28	-23.73
Yugoslavia	0.19	0.23	0.20	0.20	1.76	1.87	1.65	1.65	0.33	0.43	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.00	-0.10	-23.26
Bulgaria	0.49	0.45	0.45	0.45	1.33	1.09	1.11	1.11	0.65	0.49	0.50	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.01	2.04
Czech Rep.	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	1.79	1.95	2.24	2.24	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.01	20.51
China	0.81	0.69	0.67	0.67	1.56	1.92	1.79	1.79	1.27	1.33	1.20	1.20	0.00	0.00	-0.13	-9.43
India	2.17	2.20	2.20	2.20	0.65	0.68	0.68	0.68	1.40	1.50	1.50	1.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Turkey	0.63	0.55	0.50	0.50	1.20	1.09	1.44	1.44	0.75	0.60	0.72	0.72	0.00	0.00	0.12	20.00
South Africa	0.61	0.46	0.50	0.50	1.24	0.97	1.00	1.00	0.76	0.45	0.50	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.05	11.11
Australia	0.07	0.14	0.11	0.11	1.19	1.21	1.05	1.05	0.09	0.17	0.12	0.12	0.00	0.00	-0.05	-29.52
Burma	0.18	0.22	0.24	0.24	0.65	0.73	0.75	0.75	0.12	0.16	0.18	0.18	0.00	0.00	0.02	11.80
Others	0.91	0.86	0.91	0.91	0.82	0.88	0.88	0.86	0.74	0.76	0.80	0.78	-0.02	-2.63	0.02	2.23

May 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA



**TABLE 16**  
**Rapeseed Area, Yield, and Production**  
**World and Selected Countries and Regions**

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
	Prel.				Prel.				Prel.				From last month			
	1995/96	1996/97	Apr.	May	1995/96	1996/97	Apr.	May	1995/96	1996/97	Apr.	May	MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons							
World	24.42	22.16	23.22	23.22	1.41	1.42	1.45	1.45	34.52	31.44	33.67	33.75	0.08	0.23	2.31	7.35
United States	0.18	0.14	0.28	0.28	1.43	1.55	1.47	1.47	0.25	0.22	0.42	0.42	0.00	0.00	0.20	89.95
Total Foreign	24.25	22.02	22.93	22.93	1.41	1.42	1.45	1.45	34.27	31.22	33.26	33.33	0.08	0.23	2.11	6.77
India	6.55	6.86	6.40	6.40	0.92	1.01	0.92	0.92	6.00	6.94	5.90	5.90	0.00	0.00	-1.04	-15.01
China	6.91	6.73	6.35	6.35	1.42	1.37	1.48	1.48	9.78	9.20	9.37	9.37	0.00	0.00	0.17	1.85
Canada	5.27	3.45	4.80	4.80	1.22	1.47	1.29	1.29	6.44	5.06	6.20	6.20	0.00	0.00	1.14	22.48
European Union	2.82	2.65	2.71	2.71	2.93	2.70	3.16	3.16	8.27	7.14	8.55	8.55	0.00	0.00	1.41	19.68
France	0.85	0.87	0.97	0.97	3.20	3.32	3.51	3.51	2.70	2.87	3.40	3.40	0.00	0.00	0.53	18.47
Germany	0.97	0.85	0.90	0.90	3.21	2.31	3.11	3.11	3.13	1.97	2.80	2.80	0.00	0.00	0.83	42.13
United Kingdom	0.44	0.41	0.44	0.44	3.03	3.42	3.39	3.39	1.33	1.41	1.50	1.50	0.00	0.00	0.09	6.38
Denmark	0.15	0.11	0.11	0.11	2.05	2.38	2.76	2.76	0.31	0.25	0.29	0.29	0.00	0.00	0.04	16.00
Sweden	0.11	0.07	0.06	0.06	2.05	2.11	1.95	1.95	0.22	0.14	0.12	0.12	0.00	0.00	-0.02	-11.51
Eastern Europe	0.97	0.69	0.74	0.74	2.32	1.83	1.94	2.04	2.26	1.27	1.44	1.52	0.08	5.28	0.24	19.20
Poland	0.61	0.28	0.32	0.32	2.27	1.59	1.84	1.84	1.38	0.45	0.59	0.59	0.00	0.00	0.14	31.40
Czech Rep.	0.25	0.23	0.24	0.23	2.63	2.30	2.29	2.46	0.66	0.52	0.55	0.56	0.01	2.00	0.04	7.68
Australia	0.41	0.42	0.69	0.69	1.38	1.52	1.18	1.18	0.56	0.64	0.81	0.81	0.00	0.00	0.17	26.56
FSU-12	0.42	0.31	0.33	0.33	0.56	0.70	0.72	0.72	0.23	0.21	0.23	0.23	0.00	0.00	0.02	8.88
Russia	0.28	0.17	0.18	0.18	0.45	0.66	0.66	0.66	0.13	0.11	0.12	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.01	4.55
Pakistan	0.32	0.34	0.35	0.35	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.26	0.27	0.28	0.28	0.00	0.00	0.01	2.94
Bangladesh	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.71	0.73	0.73	0.73	0.24	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Others	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.96	0.97	0.96	0.96	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

May 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

**TABLE 17**  
**Copra, Palm Kernel, and Palm Oil Production**  
**World and Selected Countries and Regions**

Country/Region	Production				Change in Production			
	Prel.		1997/98 Proj.		From last month		From last year	
	1995/96	1996/97	Apr.	May				
	Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
COPRA								
World	5.03	5.81	5.67	5.66	-0.02	-0.28	-0.15	-2.65
Philippines	1.97	2.25	2.30	2.30	0.00	0.00	0.05	2.22
Indonesia	1.46	1.93	1.70	1.70	0.00	0.00	-0.23	-11.92
India	0.61	0.64	0.68	0.68	0.00	0.00	0.04	6.25
Mexico	0.22	0.21	0.23	0.21	-0.02	-7.66	-0.00	-0.48
Sri Lanka	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Vietnam	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Malaysia	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.00	0.00	-0.00	-5.88
Others	0.55	0.55	0.54	0.54	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-2.01
PALM KERNEL								
World	4.98	5.30	5.38	5.38	0.00	0.02	0.08	1.45
Malaysia	2.48	2.63	2.57	2.57	0.00	0.00	-0.06	-2.24
Indonesia	1.41	1.59	1.70	1.70	0.00	0.00	0.11	6.92
Nigeria	0.27	0.26	0.25	0.25	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-3.85
Cote d'Ivoire	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.78
Colombia	0.07	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.33
Thailand	0.09	0.09	0.11	0.11	0.00	0.00	0.01	14.13
Zaire	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ecuador	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.04	-0.00	-8.11	0.00	8.82
Others	0.53	0.53	0.55	0.55	0.00	0.73	0.02	2.81
PALM OIL								
World	16.17	17.44	17.59	17.49	-0.11	-0.61	0.04	0.24
Malaysia	8.26	9.01	8.80	8.70	-0.10	-1.15	-0.31	-3.39
Indonesia	4.85	5.30	5.50	5.50	0.00	0.00	0.20	3.77
Nigeria	0.59	0.60	0.59	0.59	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-1.67
Cote d'Ivoire	0.30	0.29	0.30	0.30	0.00	0.00	0.02	5.26
Colombia	0.39	0.41	0.44	0.44	0.00	0.00	0.03	7.32
Thailand	0.37	0.40	0.45	0.45	0.00	0.00	0.05	12.50
Zaire	0.11	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ecuador	0.22	0.21	0.25	0.23	-0.02	-8.70	0.02	9.52
Others	1.08	1.12	1.15	1.16	0.01	1.21	0.04	3.76

May 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA



TABLE 18

# Cotton Area, Yield, and Production

## World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change In Production			
	Prel.		1997/98 Proj.		Prel.		1997/98 Proj.		Prel.		1997/98 Proj.		From last month		From last year	
	1995/96	1996/97	Apr.	May	1995/96	1996/97	Apr.	May	1995/96	1996/97	Apr.	May	MBales	Percent	MBales	Percent
	Million hectares				Kilograms per hectare				Million 480 lb. bales							
World	35.93	33.83	33.70	33.49	564	574	576	576	93.03	89.18	89.19	88.63	-0.57	-0.64	-0.55	-0.62
United States	6.48	5.21	5.38	5.37	602	792	763	762	17.90	18.94	18.83	18.79	-0.04	-0.20	-0.15	-0.79
Total Foreign	29.46	28.62	28.33	28.12	555	534	541	541	75.13	70.24	70.36	69.83	-0.53	-0.75	-0.40	-0.58
Major Exporters	16.64	15.83	15.93	15.73	696	662	692	694	53.19	48.15	50.66	50.13	-0.53	-1.05	1.98	4.12
China	5.42	4.72	4.50	4.50	879	890	953	953	21.90	19.30	19.70	19.70	0.00	0.00	0.40	2.07
Pakistan	3.05	3.20	2.90	2.90	586	497	526	526	8.20	7.30	7.00	7.00	0.00	0.00	-0.30	-4.11
Sudan	0.22	0.28	0.27	0.27	485	358	329	329	0.49	0.46	0.40	0.40	0.00	0.00	-0.06	-13.04
Turkey	0.76	0.74	0.70	0.70	1,125	1,054	1,026	1,026	3.91	3.60	3.30	3.30	0.00	0.00	-0.30	-8.33
FSU-12	2.57	2.52	2.58	2.58	699	560	616	618	8.26	6.47	7.31	7.33	0.02	0.27	0.86	13.29
Uzbekistan	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	833	689	784	784	5.74	4.75	5.40	5.40	0.00	0.00	0.65	13.68
Turkmenistan	0.45	0.45	0.55	0.55	556	290	356	356	1.15	0.60	0.90	0.90	0.00	0.00	0.30	50.00
Other	0.62	0.57	0.53	0.53	479	432	412	420	1.37	1.12	1.01	1.03	0.02	1.98	-0.09	-8.04
Egypt	0.31	0.39	0.36	0.37	774	882	937	902	1.09	1.57	1.55	1.55	0.00	0.00	-0.02	-1.15
African Franc Zone	1.61	1.91	2.06	2.06	424	418	440	440	3.14	3.66	4.15	4.15	0.00	0.00	0.49	13.36
Southern Hemisphere	2.70	2.08	2.57	2.35	499	607	614	621	6.20	5.79	7.25	6.70	-0.55	-7.59	0.91	15.76
Argentina	0.96	0.88	1.00	0.80	437	369	414	381	1.93	1.49	1.90	1.40	-0.50	-26.32	-0.09	-6.23
Australia	0.30	0.40	0.43	0.43	1,425	1,537	1,519	1,570	1.97	2.79	3.00	3.10	0.10	3.33	0.31	11.19
Brazil	1.13	0.70	0.92	0.92	345	407	450	426	1.79	1.30	1.90	1.80	-0.10	-5.26	0.50	38.46
Paraguay	0.31	0.11	0.22	0.20	355	429	445	435	0.51	0.21	0.45	0.40	-0.05	-11.11	0.19	93.24
Major Importers	0.54	0.55	0.55	0.55	939	745	885	885	2.32	1.88	2.25	2.25	0.00	0.00	0.37	19.67
Other Foreign	12.28	12.24	11.84	11.84	348	360	321	321	19.62	20.21	17.45	17.45	0.00	0.00	-2.76	-13.64
India	9.06	9.17	9.00	9.00	318	327	271	271	13.25	13.78	11.20	11.20	0.00	0.00	-2.58	-18.73
Others	3.22	3.07	2.84	2.84	432	456	479	479	6.37	6.43	6.25	6.25	0.00	0.00	-0.18	-2.74

TABLE 19

The table below presents a 17-year record of the differences between the May projection and the final estimate. Using world wheat production as an example, changes between the May projection and the final estimate have averaged 15.5 million tons (2.9 percent) and ranged from -31.4 to 29.7 million tons. The May projection has been below the final 10 times and above the final 7 times.

### RELIABILITY OF PRODUCTION PROJECTIONS

COMMODITY AND REGION	PROJECTION AND FINAL ESTIMATES, 1981/82 - 1996/97 1/					
	Difference		Lowest	Highest	Below	Above
	Average	Average	Difference		Final	Final
	Percent	---Million metric tons---			Number of years 2/	
<b>WHEAT</b>						
World	2.9	15.5	-31.4	29.7	10	7
U.S.	5.2	3.2	-7.2	9.8	8	9
Foreign	2.9	13.4	-24.1	28.7	9	8
<b>COARSE GRAINS 3/</b>						
World	3.2	25.4	-31.9	75.3	9	8
U.S.	12.7	25.2	-35.9	70.3	8	9
Foreign	2.3	13.0	-26.4	28.1	6	11
<b>RICE (Milled)</b>						
World	2.4	7.7	-21.8	11.4	13	4
U.S.	6.4	0.3	-1.0	0.5	10	7
Foreign	2.4	7.7	-22.0	11.2	13	4
<b>SOYBEANS</b>						
World	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
U.S.	8.1	4.3	-11.3	12.0	10	7
Foreign	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
			---Million 480-lb. bales---			
<b>COTTON</b>						
World	5.1	4.2	-13.7	11.4	11	6
U.S.	9.4	1.4	-2.8	3.1	8	9
Foreign	5.2	3.5	-12.2	10.5	9	8
<b>UNITED STATES</b>			-----Million bushels-----			
<b>CORN</b>	13.4	875	-1,378	2,379	6	11
<b>SORGHUM</b>	15.7	111	-228	171	9	8
<b>BARLEY</b>	9.9	40	-73	206	7	10
<b>OATS</b>	18.3	52	-77	231	4	13

1/ The final estimate for 1981/82-1996/97 is defined as the first November estimate following the marketing year.

2/ May not total 17 if projection was the same as the final.

3/ Includes corn, sorghum, barley, oats, rye, millet, and mixed grain.

May 1998

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA



# WORLD AGRICULTURAL WEATHER HIGHLIGHTS

May 12, 1998



## 1 - CANADA

Spring plantings have reportedly made good progress across the Prairies and in Ontario. Moisture will be needed soon to ensure proper establishment, especially in very dry sections of Saskatchewan.

## 2 - UNITED STATES

Favorable weather promoted rapid planting progress in the upper Mississippi Valley, the northern Plains and the western Corn Belt. Rainy weather delayed fieldwork east of the Mississippi River, except along the Gulf Coast where little or no rain fell. Hot, dry weather prevailed over south Texas. Unseasonable rains returned to California in early May.

## 3 - SOUTH AMERICA

In northern Argentina and southern Paraguay, excessive April rainfall exacerbated flooding and damage to cotton and rice. Above normal April rainfall slowed soybean and corn harvesting in central Argentina and reduced cotton and soybean quality in southern Brazil.

## 4 - EUROPE

Above-normal April precipitation in England, France, the Benelux Countries, and Italy's Po Valley provided abundant to excessive moisture for crop development but hampered planting activities. Near-to below-freezing temperatures from April 13-16 may have caused some damage to emerging summer crops, winter oilseeds, and flowering orchards in the west. Rain eased prolonged dryness in Hungary and Slovakia, improving conditions for winter grains and spring-planted crops.

## 5 - FSU-WESTERN

Well-above-normal precipitation in Ukraine and Russia in April provided ample moisture for early crop growth but slowed spring grain planting. A late arrival of spring in northern Russia delayed greening of winter grains. Since late April, mild and generally dry weather in Ukraine and Russia promoted winter grain development and helped spring planting activities.

## 6 - NORTHWESTERN AFRICA

Showers since mid-April in Algeria and Tunisia stabilized conditions for filling winter grains but arrived too late to significantly improve yield prospects. Mostly dry weather in Morocco hastened maturity in winter grains.

## USDA/OCE - World Agricultural Outlook Board Joint Agricultural Weather Facility

## 7 - SOUTH AFRICA

Unseasonable warmth continues to favor late maturing summer crops and newly planted wheat. Periodic showers in Western Cape have improved wheat prospects.

## 8 - EASTERN ASIA

The trend of above normal rainfall continued in April across the North China Plain, benefiting reproductive winter wheat and germinating summer crops. In Manchuria, April rainfall was adequate for germination but more is needed for crop development. Near to slightly below normal rainfall maintained irrigation supplies for rice across southern China. Above normal April rainfall boosted moisture supplies for corn and rice planting across Japan and the Korean peninsula.

## 9 - SOUTHEAST ASIA

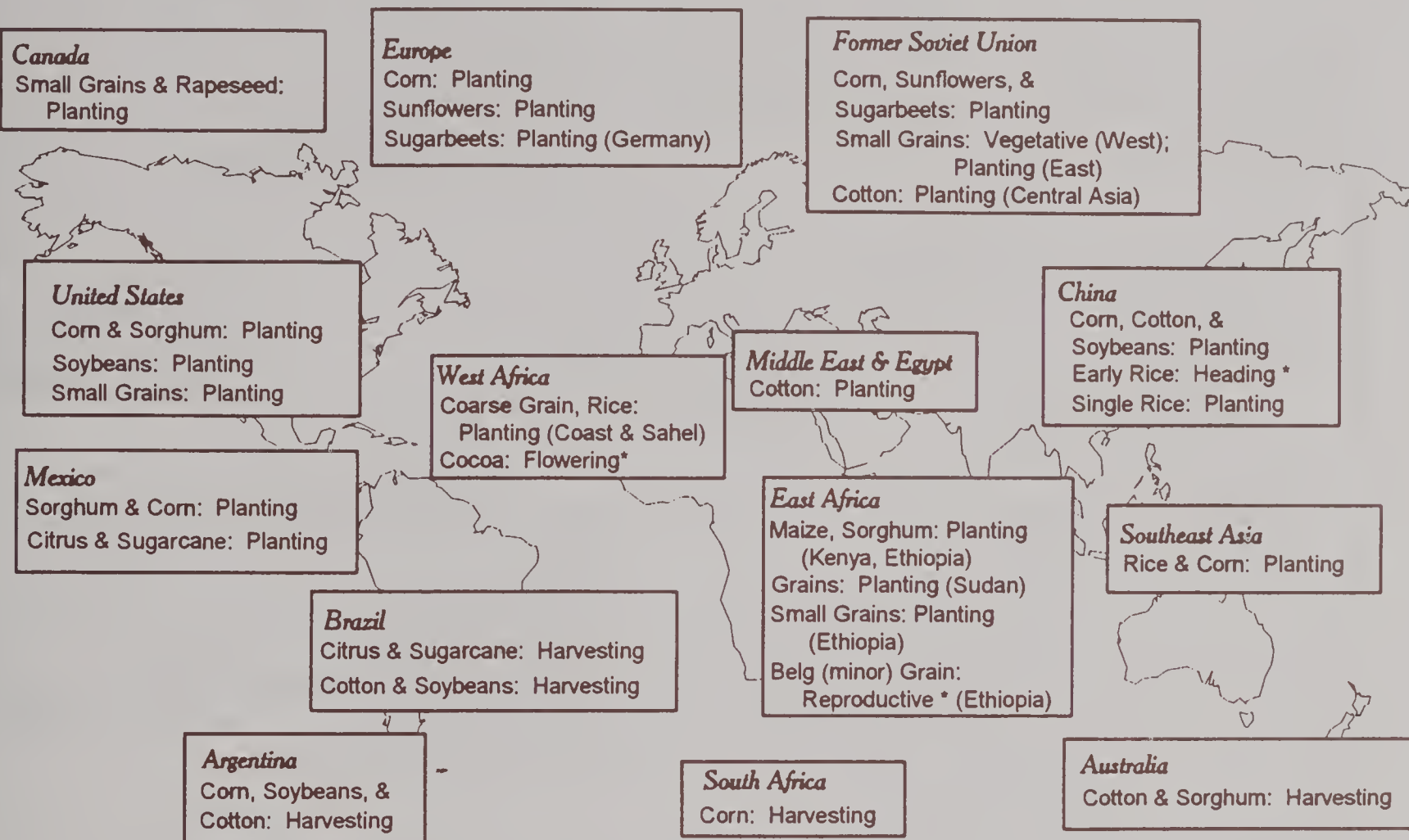
Across southern Sumatra and Java, above normal April rainfall maintained moisture supplies for main-season rice and second-season crops. Drought continued during April across the eastern Philippines, with only minor relief during early May. Below normal April rainfall stressed oil palm in peninsular Malaysia and rice and coffee in southern Vietnam. Seasonal showers increased moisture supplies in Thailand.

## 10 - AUSTRALIA

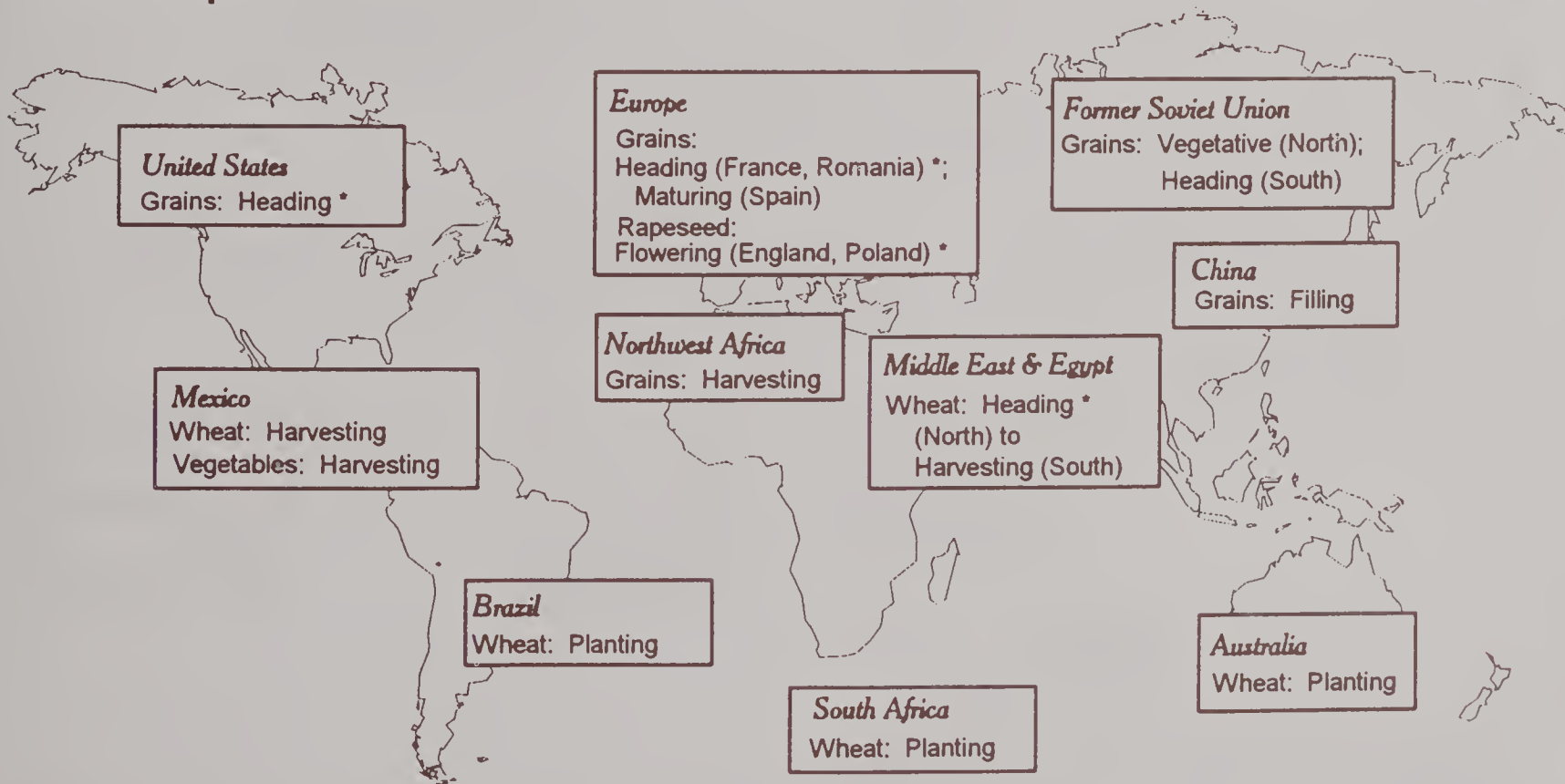
In April, nearly all wheat and barley areas received adequate to abundant pre-planting moisture, raising expectations for the 1998/99 season. Recurrent rain in early May has kept primary farm land in Queensland and New South Wales wet, maintaining high moisture reserves but hindering fieldwork.

# May normal crop calendar

## Summer crops



## Winter crops



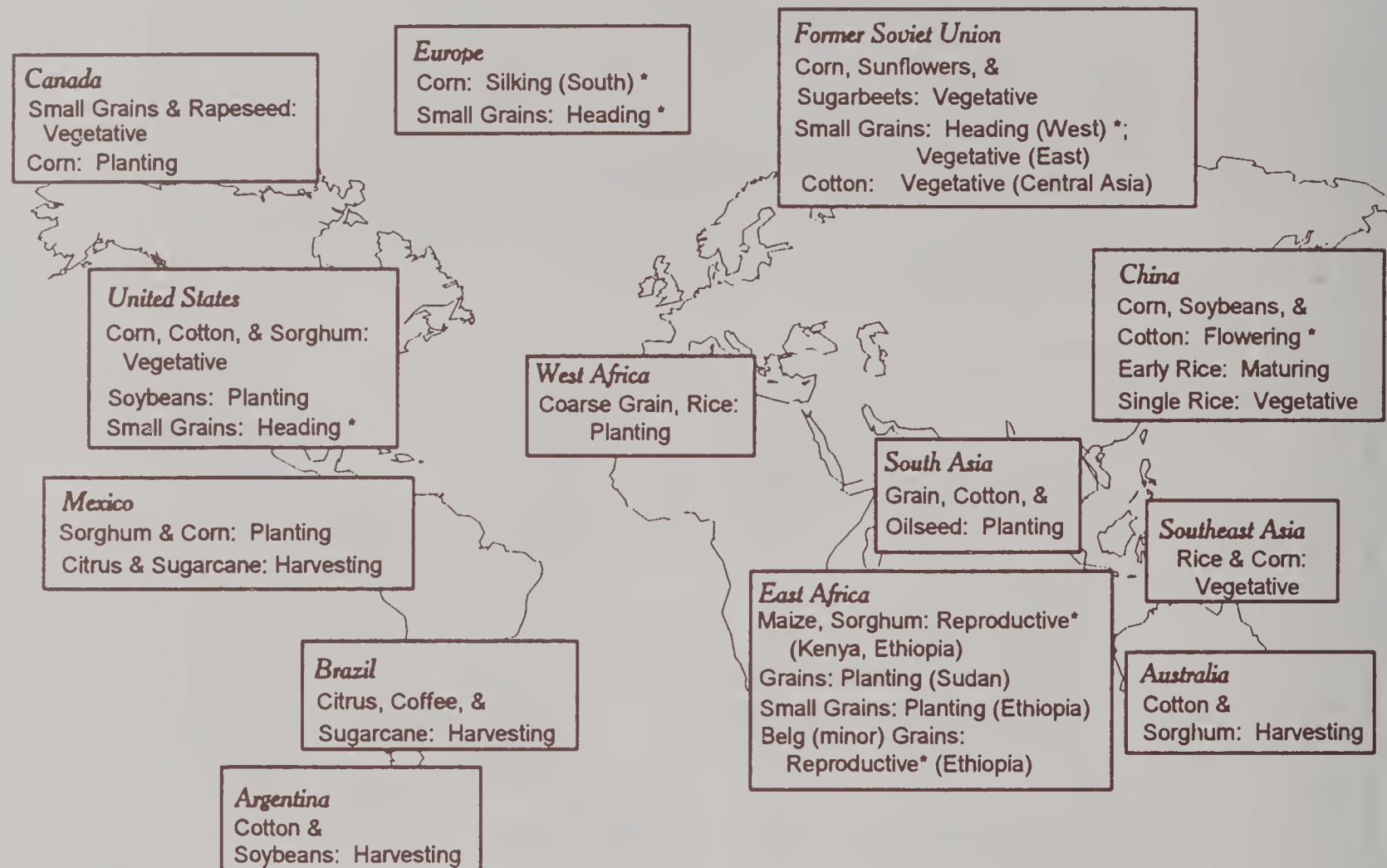
\* Moisture / Temperature Sensitive Stage of Development

JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY (NOAA/USDA)

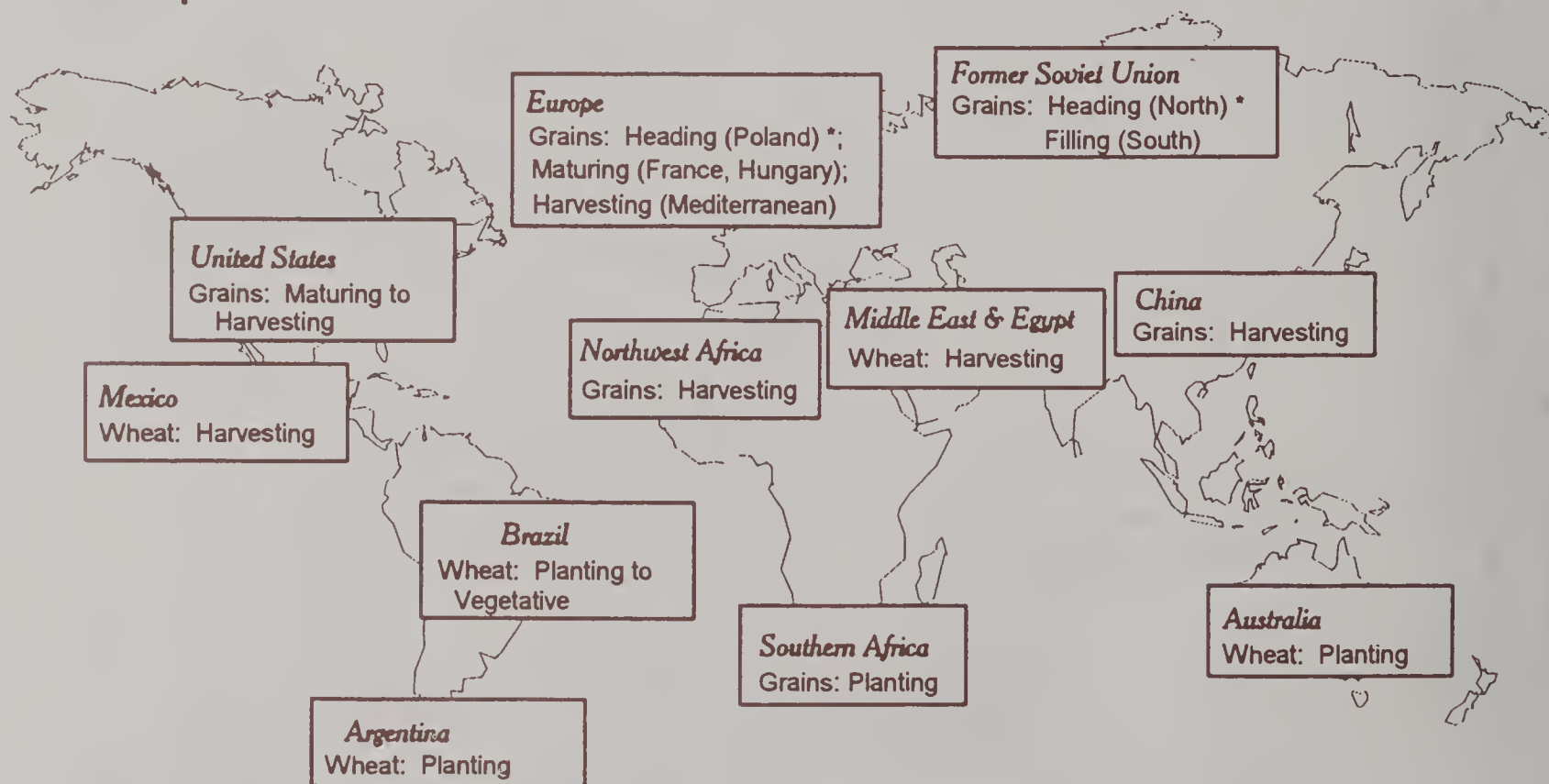


# June normal crop calendar

## Summer crops



## Winter crops



\* Moisture / Temperature Sensitive Stage of Development

NORTHWESTERN AFRICA: SHOWERS STABILIZE EASTERN WHEAT YIELDS

During March, Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia received below-normal rainfall, worsening conditions for winter grains which were in the reproductive phase of development. From April 1-11, showers brought some relief to reproductive and filling winter grains. However, rainfall was somewhat scattered and light. In southern Morocco, rainfall was insufficient to halt the downward trend in crop condition. Most of northwestern Africa was dry during the week of April 12-18. Light rain continued to stabilize conditions in northern Morocco. Crop conditions continued to decline in southern Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia due to persistent dryness during the winter wheat grain filling stage. From April 19 through May 5, widespread rain fell in Algeria and Tunisia, bringing relief to late and immature crops. However, these rains were thought to be generally too late to significantly improve yield prospects. Northern Morocco was drier, with northern winter grains receiving less than 10 millimeters per week of rainfall.

SOUTH AMERICA: NORTHERN ARGENTINA AND SOUTHERN BRAZIL REMAIN WET

During March, below-normal rainfall favored corn and sunflowerseed maturation and harvesting in the major growing areas of Argentina and Brazil. Heavier rainfall in northern Argentina and Paraguay caused concerns for maturing cotton. In Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, excessive rainfall slowed soybean harvest and reduced its quality. During the first week of April, moderate-to-heavy showers continued to slow soybean harvest in Rio Grande do Sul and Parana, Brazil. Heavy showers continued in northern Argentina, slowing cotton harvest. By week's end, drier and more favorable weather returned, aiding cotton maturation. Drier weather also favored summer crop harvest in central Argentina. From about April 8-18, excessive showers in northern Argentina and southern Paraguay caused flooding and some damage to mature cotton. Moderate showers across central Argentina slowed summer crop harvest. During this period, widespread moderate-to-heavy showers covered the major soybean-growing areas of southern Brazil, slowing harvest. The week of April 19 was another wet week across northern Argentina and southern Paraguay. The rainfall exacerbated flooding and damaged mature cotton and delayed its harvest. In central Argentina, scattered showers slowed summer crop harvest. In southern Brazil, moderate showers in southwestern Parana and northwestern Rio Grande do Sul slowed soybean and cotton harvest and reduced their quality. The period of April 26 through May 2, ushered in drier weather in northern Argentina, which eased flooding. Continued dryness is needed for resumption of the cotton harvest and preservation of its quality. Showers again slowed summer crop harvest and possibly reduced soybean and sunflowerseed quality in central Argentina, while heavier showers slowed corn harvest in southeastern Buenos Aires. Also, moderate-to-heavy showers again caused harvest delays and reduction of soybean quality in Parana and Rio Grande do Sul, in southern Brazil.



## CANADA: LINGERING WINTER COLD RESTRICTS CROP PROGRESS

During the last week of April 26 through May 7, dry weather across the Prairies favored spring fieldwork. Temperatures averaging 2 to 5 degrees C above normal helped warm topsoils throughout the main agricultural districts. However, there were some exceptions, where lows remained below -2 degrees C, restricting planting operations. As of May 10, moisture reserves are generally favorable in western and southern growing areas. More rain is needed from central Saskatchewan to the north and east. In the east, winter wheat is greening in southern growing areas and breaking dormancy elsewhere, although the recurrence of sub-freezing temperatures limits vegetative growth.

### PRODUCTION BRIEFS

#### BRAZIL: SOYBEAN PRODUCTION UP BASED ON GOOD HARVEST RESULTS

Brazilian soybean production for 1997/98 is forecast at a record 30.7 million tons, up 0.7 million or 2 percent from last month, and up 3.9 million or 15 percent from the previous record of last year. Harvested area for 1997/98 is forecast at 13.0 million hectares, up 1.2 million from last year. The upward revision is due to good harvest results, especially in the states of Mato Grosso, Goias, Rio Grande do Sul, and Parana. Production was believed to be limited by dryness during December and January in the states of Parana, Sao Paulo, and Mato Grosso do Sul, and more recently by heavy rains that have hampered harvesting. The new record forecast indicates that these problems were in some cases not as severe as once feared and that any losses are being more than compensated for by good yields in other areas. As of April 30, harvest was 87 percent complete, behind last year's progress of 96 percent, but equal to the 5-year average.

#### ARGENTINA: RAINS AND FLOODS REDUCE COTTON, RICE, AND SUNFLOWERSEED PRODUCTION

Excessive rains and floods in Argentina have caused heavy losses in the cotton crop. Cotton production for 1997/98 is estimated lower this month at 1.4 million bales, down 0.5 million or 26 percent from last month and 6 percent from last year's output of 1.5 million. The dramatic reduction from a forecast high of 2.1 million bales in March, has resulted from excessive rainfall and flooding in the Northeast provinces of Chaco, Formosa Santa Fe, and Corrientes. Cotton losses resulted from a host of moisture related insect and disease problems in marginally-affected areas, while cotton in the hardest hit areas was submerged and much can not be harvested. Harvest area for 1997/98 was cut from 1.0 million hectares to 0.8 million.

Sunflower area, while not flooded like cotton, has suffered from a prolonged period of late-season, excess rainfall which has reduced yields and frustrated harvest efforts. Production for 1997/98 is estimated lower this month at 5.0 million tons, down 0.2 million or 4 percent from last month and down 0.4 million from last year. Area is unchanged this month at 3.1 million hectares. As a result of the continuing rains, the production forecast for the sunflowerseed crop has been reduced over

each of the past four months, from a January forecast of 6.0 million tons. The crop is characterized by immature light-weight flowers, poorly-filled seeds, and the presence of various diseases.

Rice is estimated lower this month at 0.585 million tons (milled), down 0.185 million or 24 percent from last month, and down 0.195 million from last year's record. Area was reduced to 0.2 million hectares, down from 0.225 million last month. Like cotton, rice has suffered from recent floods in Corrientes and neighboring provinces. Yield and quality had already suffered due to cool, moist conditions earlier in the season. The recent rains have interrupted the harvest and many growers are unable to move the rice to commercial facilities for drying due to flood-related transportation problems.

#### CHINA: PEANUT ESTIMATE RAISED

China's 1997/98 peanut production is estimated at 9.6 million tons, up 0.8 million from last month, but down 0.5 million or 5 percent from last year's crop. The revision is based on official statistics recently published by the Chinese Government. Area is estimated up 0.1 million hectares from last year to 3.7 million, but abnormally hot and dry summer weather hurt yields on the North China Plain, particularly in Henan, southern Hebei, and western Shandong Provinces. These three provinces account for more than 60 percent of China's total peanut production. The peanut crop in eastern Shandong, Anhui, and Jiangsu benefitted from moderate rainfall in August, and the weather was generally favorable in southern China, where about 20 percent of the crop is grown.

#### UNITED STATES: CROP CONDITION AND PROGRESS

A rainy weather pattern persisted throughout the month in the eastern half of the United States, limiting fieldwork and delaying planting, especially in the Southeast. Cotton growers barely had time between storms to prepare and plant fields, keeping progress well behind normal as the month ended. The wet weather also delayed the normal beginning of the corn planting season in the Corn Belt. But as the end of the month neared, the western Corn Belt dried and farmers were able to make excellent planting progress. However, the eastern Corn Belt remained wet and planting remained behind normal in Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio. Nationally, by month's end, planting was ahead of normal and on a record pace in Minnesota.

Above normal temperatures and dry weather from the Great lakes westward through the northern Plains and Pacific Northwest allowed farmers to make rapid progress in sowing small grains. By the end of the month, most of the Nation's spring wheat, barley, and oats crops were planted. However, dry weather was slowing germination and crop growth, especially in the central and northern High Plains.

The mild, early spring temperatures also coaxed winter wheat out of dormancy earlier than normal and provided good growing conditions for most of the month. Around mid-month, a cold front that brought below freezing temperatures as far south as northern Texas did little damage to the crop. But by the end of the month, dry weather was beginning to stress the crop in the High Plains from



Texas to the Canada border. In the eastern Corn Belt, wet weather was responsible for the decline in the crop condition. Despite the late-month deterioration, winter wheat was in better condition at month's end than in recent years.

Fieldwork and planting were frequently delayed by rain in the Southwest and California. In addition, below normal temperatures persisted for most of the month, keeping soils unfavorably cool until late-month, causing cotton growers to delay planting. A late-month warm up allowed Southwest farmers to make good progress, but planting remained behind the 5-year average as the month ended. In the Southeast, cool, wet weather persisted through the end of the month, causing cotton and peanut planting to fall farther behind. Rice growers had well over half of their crop seeded, despite the rainy weather.

#### FORMER SOVIET UNION: WEATHER AND CROP DEVELOPMENTS

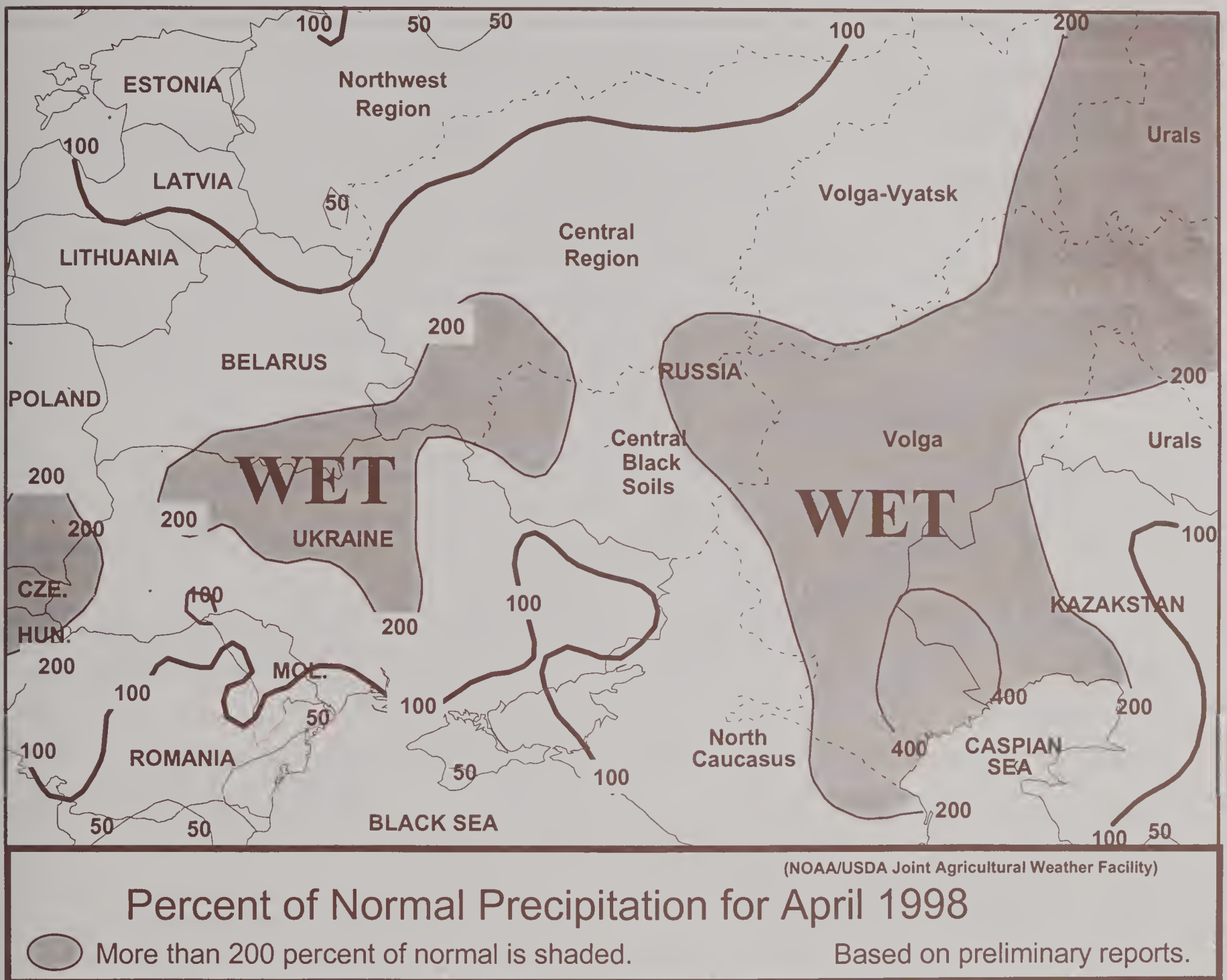
In April, above-normal precipitation fell in Belarus, western and northern Ukraine, and central and eastern Russia (Central Region, Central Black Soils Region, and the Volga Valley). Most of this precipitation occurred from April 1-20, hampering planting operations of spring grain and early sugar beet. Planting, helped by generally dry weather, likely began on schedule in southern Ukraine and the North Caucasus region in Russia. Unseasonably mild weather in April favored greening of winter grains in Ukraine, extreme southern areas in Russia, Belarus, and the Baltics. However, during the first 20 days of the month, unseasonably cold weather prevailed in central and northern Russia, delaying greening in winter grains and spring planting. During the last 10 days in April, mild and generally dry weather in most areas favored winter grain development and spring planting. By month's end, crop progress for winter grains ranged from jointing in Ukraine to greening in northern Russia. Since early May, continued mild and generally dry weather in Ukraine allowed spring grain and summer crop planting to progress without delays and promoted winter grain development. In Russia, light showers accompanied a warming trend, maintaining favorable conditions for winter grains and spring sown crops in the south and increasing soil temperatures for spring grain planting in the north.

In crop areas east of the Urals, spring grain planting usually begins in May. In April, unusually cold, wet weather prevailed over major spring wheat producing areas in Kazakhstan and Russia, preventing early season fieldwork. Moisture accumulations since last fall have been near to above normal in Russia and Kazakhstan, providing adequate to abundant soil moisture conditions for the upcoming growing season. Recently, although a rapid warming trend increased soil temperatures for upcoming spring grain planting, widespread showers hampered early fieldwork.

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Tom Puterbaugh (202) 720-2012

# FORMER SOVIET UNION (WESTERN)



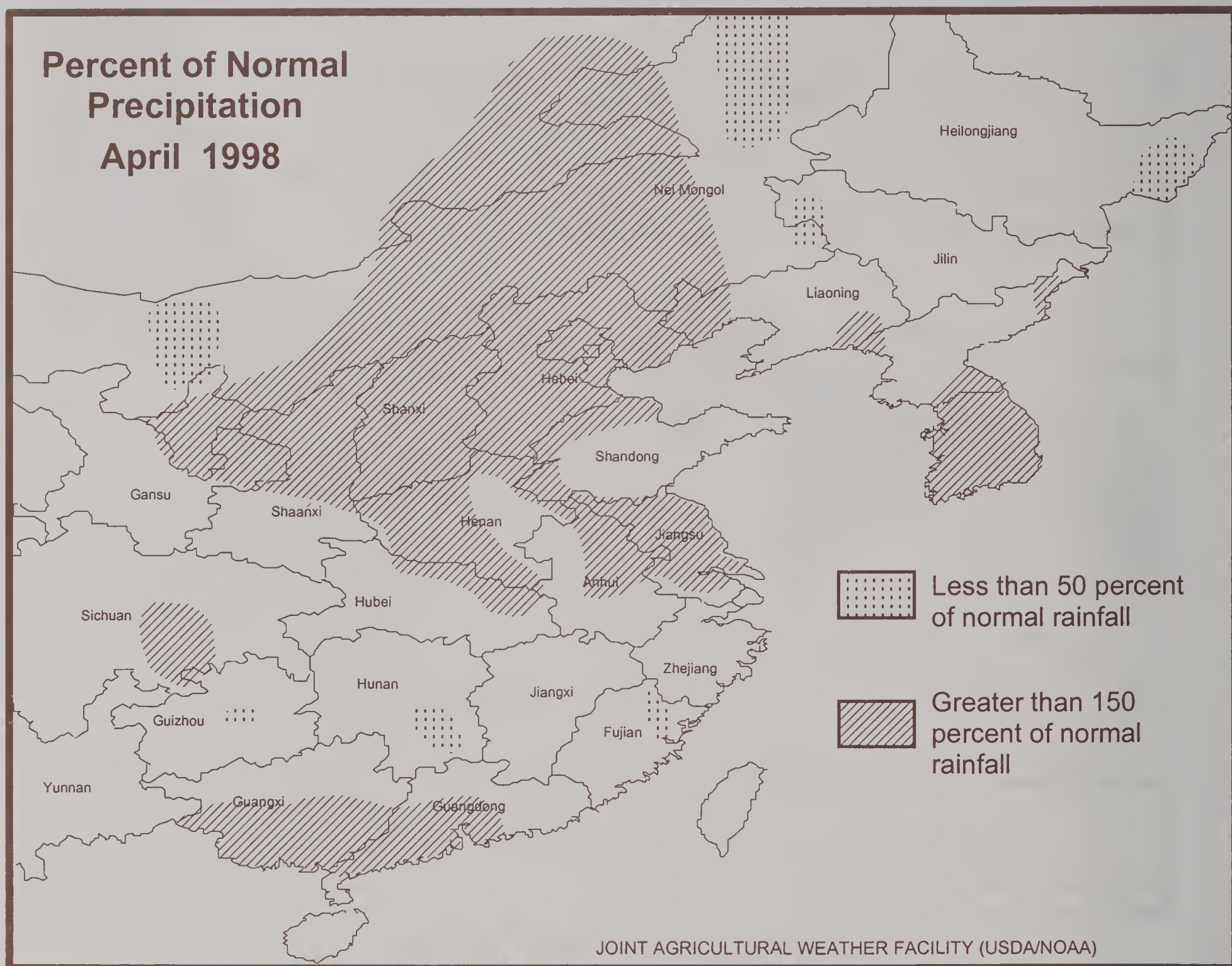
## WEATHER AND CROP HIGHLIGHTS

MAY 12, 1998

- o In April, well-above-normal precipitation in Ukraine and Russia provided ample moisture for early winter grain growth but slowed spring grain planting.
- o Unseasonably mild weather in April in Ukraine, southern Russia, the Baltics, and Belarus, promoted rapid greening of winter grains. A late arrival of spring in northern Russia delayed greening of winter grains.
- o Since early May, a warming trend along with periodic dryness in Ukraine and southern Russia promoted winter grain development and helped spring grain and summer crop planting.



# CHINA



## WEATHER AND CROP HIGHLIGHTS

MAY 12, 1998

- Unseasonably heavy rain during April and early May benefited reproductive winter wheat and germinating summer crops across the North China Plain. Near- to above-normal April rainfall favored spring wheat germination across north-central China (Gansu, Shaanxi, and southern Nei Mongol). In Manchuria, near-normal April rainfall provided adequate topsoil moisture for germinating summer crops, but some areas require additional moisture.
- Farther south, near-normal April rainfall maintained adequate irrigation supplies for rice crops across the Yangtze Valley and southern China.

## FEATURE COMMODITY ARTICLES

### 1998/99 WORLD GRAIN PRODUCTION OUTLOOK

World grain production (wheat, coarse grains, and rice) for 1998/99 is forecast at a record 1,890.7 million tons, up 2.2 million or less than 1 percent from 1997/98. World wheat production is forecast at 597.0 million tons, down 13.7 million or 2 percent from last year. Although a recent sharp decline in wheat prices reduced winter wheat plantings in the United States and intentions for spring grains in the United States and Canada, the EU-15 maintained wheat area and is forecast to produce a record wheat crop. Wheat production is projected lower in the United States, China, Argentina, Canada, Eastern Europe, and the FSU-12. In China, yield and production are forecast to decline from last season's record level, but the crop is likely to be the second largest wheat harvest on record.

World 1998/99 coarse grain production is forecast at 906.8 million tons, up 9.3 million or 1 percent from 1997/98 mainly due to increases in the United States, China, and Brazil. Global coarse grain area is projected to increase as corn area reaches a record level, more than offsetting a 30-year low for barley area. Stronger corn prices relative to other crops have encouraged producers to plant additional corn area in the United States. China and Brazil's corn production are forecast higher as area expands and they recover from the effects of poor weather. Production in Eastern Europe is forecast lower as yields return to an average level after last season's bumper corn crop. Output in Argentina is forecast lower than a year earlier; however, yield is increasing at a rapid rate as producers use improved technologies and the crop is expected to be the second largest on record.

World 1998/99 rice production is forecast at a record 387.0 million tons, up 6.7 million or 2 percent from 1997/98. Assuming normal weather, record total foreign output is projected due to a continued increase in the adoption of improved technologies. In addition, the strong world rice prices likely will encourage major exporting countries to plant more area. In the United States, the rice crop is forecast to be the second highest on record. Assuming normal weather, Indonesia should rebound from the affects of the recent El Nino-related drought.

Individual country level supply and distribution estimates will be detailed for rice on July 10, 1998.

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CHART 1

## World Wheat Output Decreases

- Area down 4.5 MHa or 2 percent
- Yield down less than 1 percent
- Production down 13.7 MMT or 2 percent

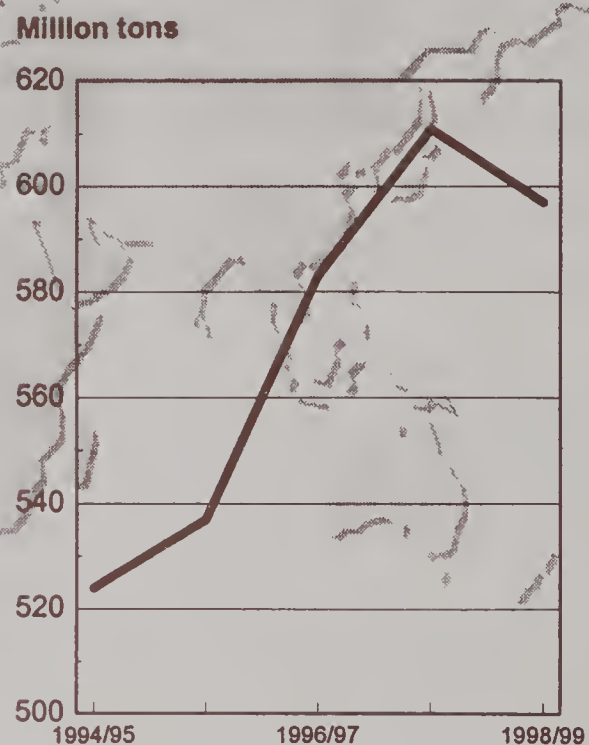
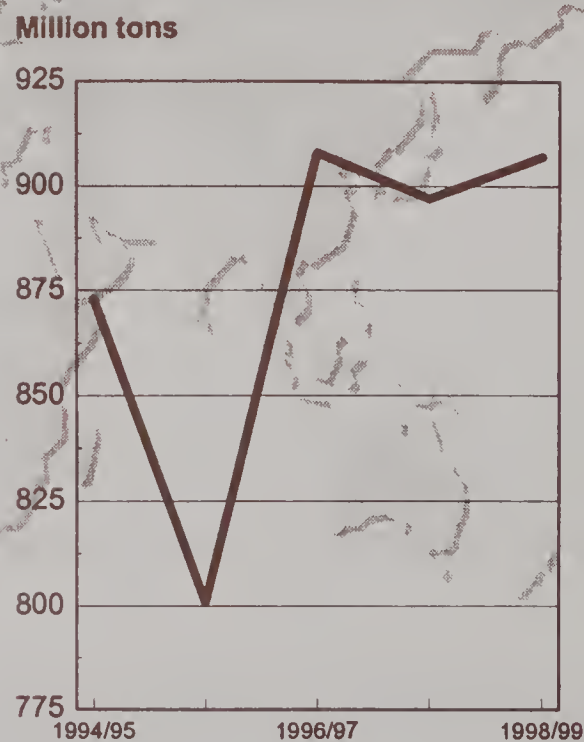


CHART 2

## World Coarse Grain Output Increases

- Area up 1.5 MHa or less than 1 percent
- Yield up less than 1 percent
- Production up 9.3 MMT or 1 percent



## World Rice Output at Record Level

- Country level estimates to be released in July
- Total foreign output at record level
- Total world production increases 6.7 MMT or 2 percent from 1997

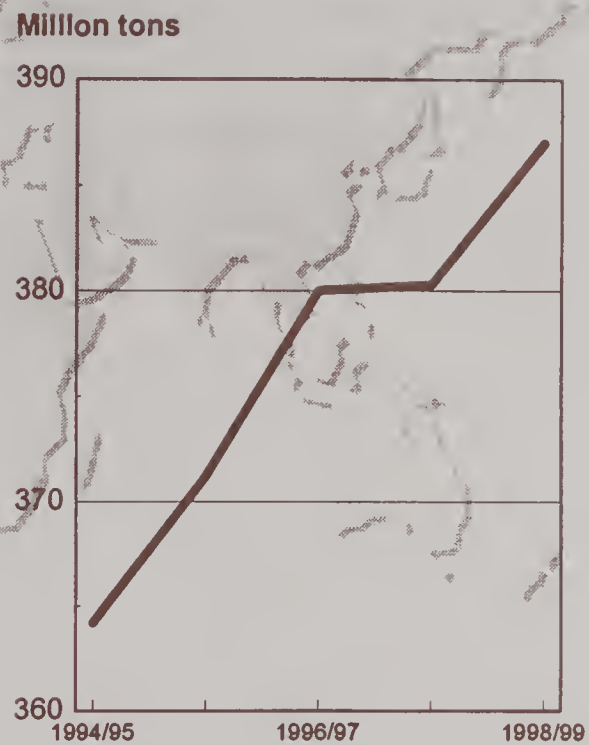
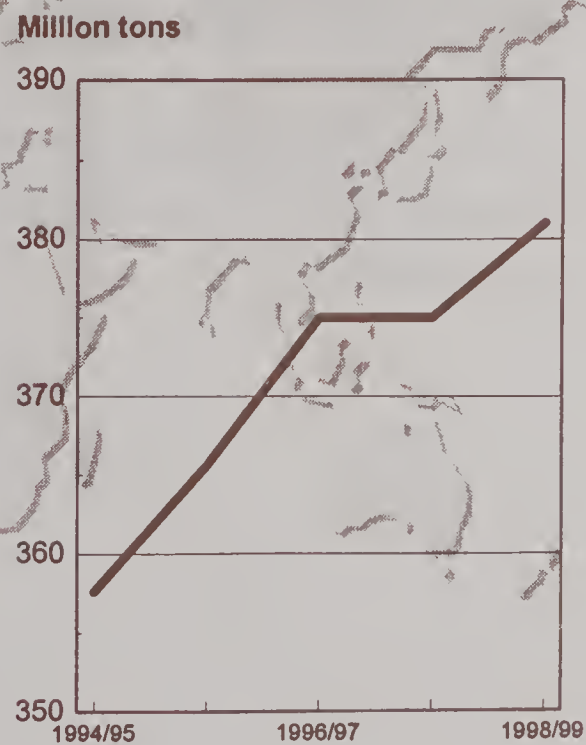


CHART 4

## Total Foreign Rice Output Increases to Record

- Production record level
- Output up 2 percent from 1997 crop





## Total Foreign Wheat Output Down

- Area down 3.3 MHa or 2 percent
- Yield down slightly
- Production down 9.1 MMT or 2 percent

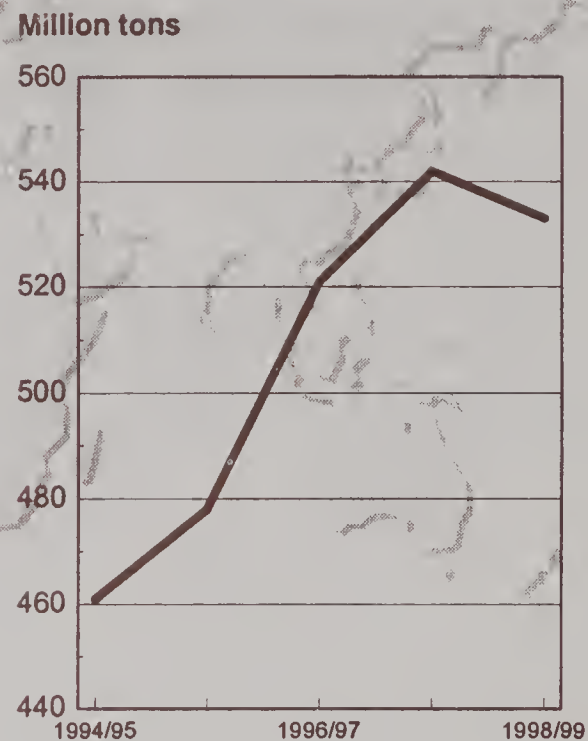
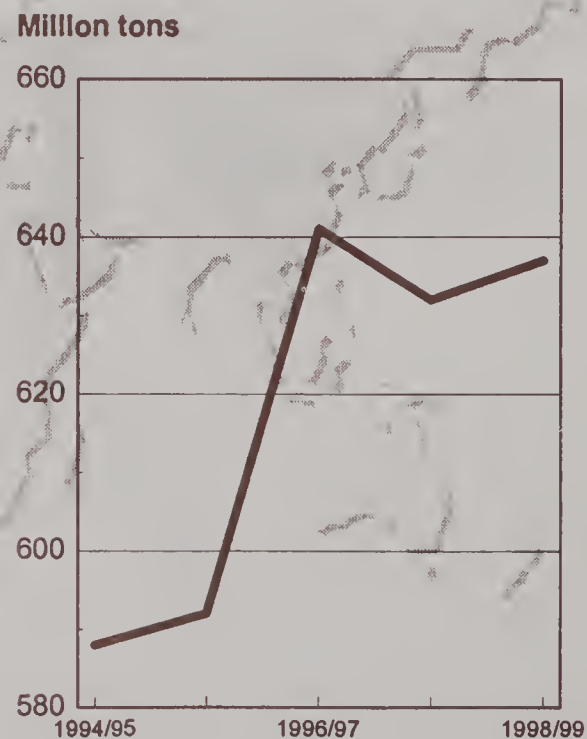


CHART 6

## Total Foreign Coarse Grain Output Increases

- Area up 1.7 MHa or 1 percent
- Yield virtually unchanged
- Production up 4.9 MMT or 1 percent



## United States Rice Output Higher

- Area up 1 percent
- Yield up 1 percent
- Production increases 0.1 MMT or 2 percent

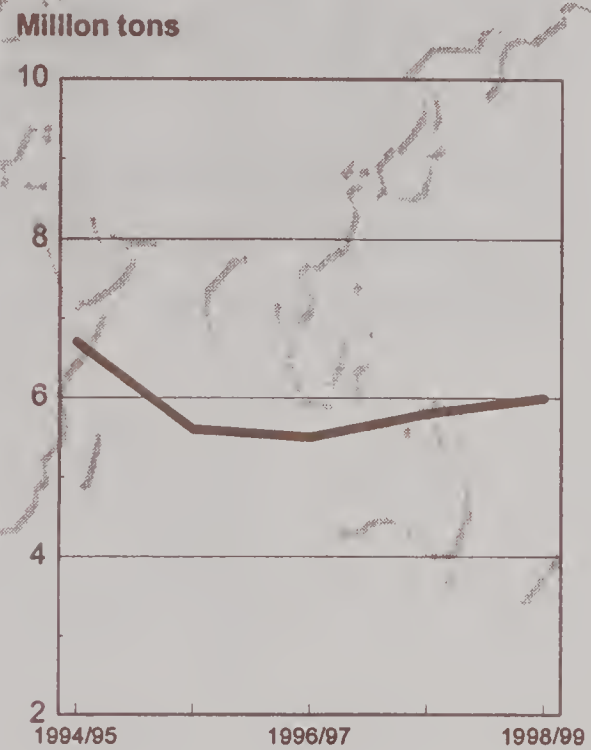




CHART 8

## United States Wheat Output Decreases

- Area down 1.2 MHa or 5 percent
- Yield up 2 percent
- Production down 4.7 MMT or 7 percent

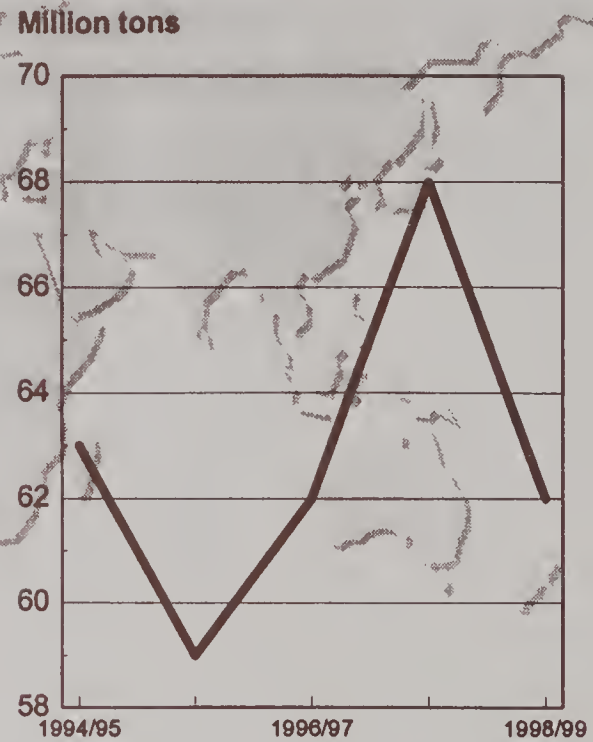
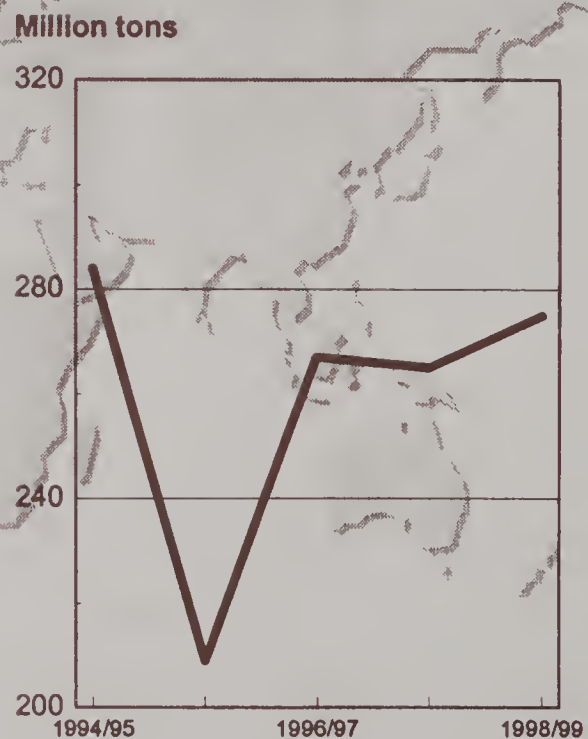


CHART 9

## United States Coarse Grain Output Increases

- Area up 0.2 MHa or 1 percent
- Yield up 2 percent
- Production up 4.5 MMT or 2 percent



## EU Wheat Output At Record Level

- Area up 0.1 MHa or less than 1 percent
- Yield up 5 percent
- Production up 5.1 MMT or 5 percent, record level

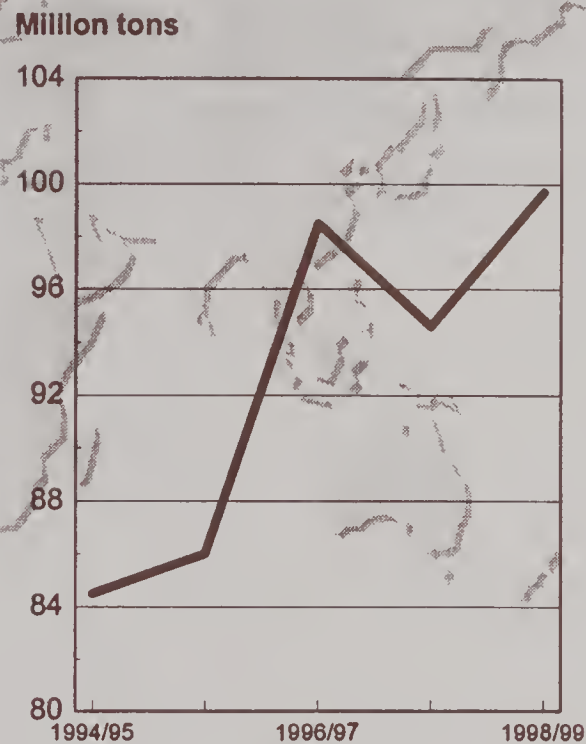


CHART 11

## EU Coarse Grain Output Lower

- Area down 0.2 MHa or 1 percent
- Yield down 4 percent
- Production down 5.6 MMT or 5 percent

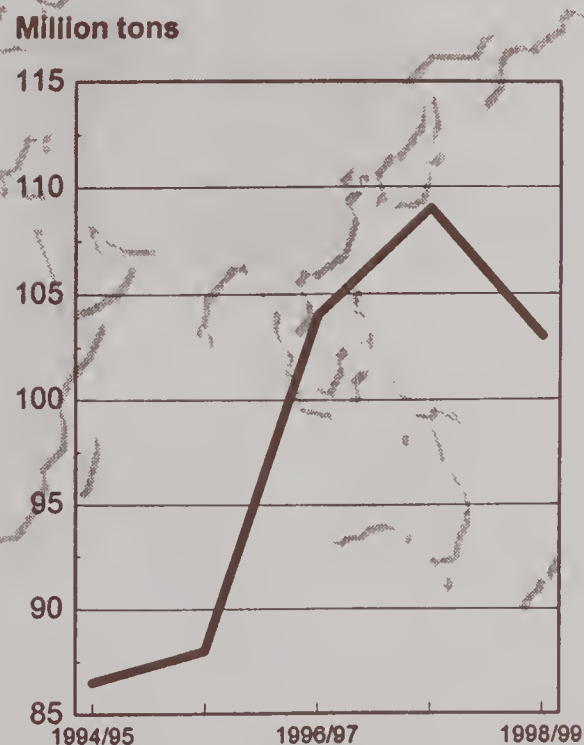




CHART 12

## Australia Wheat Output Unchanged

- Area unchanged
- Yield unchanged
- Production unchanged

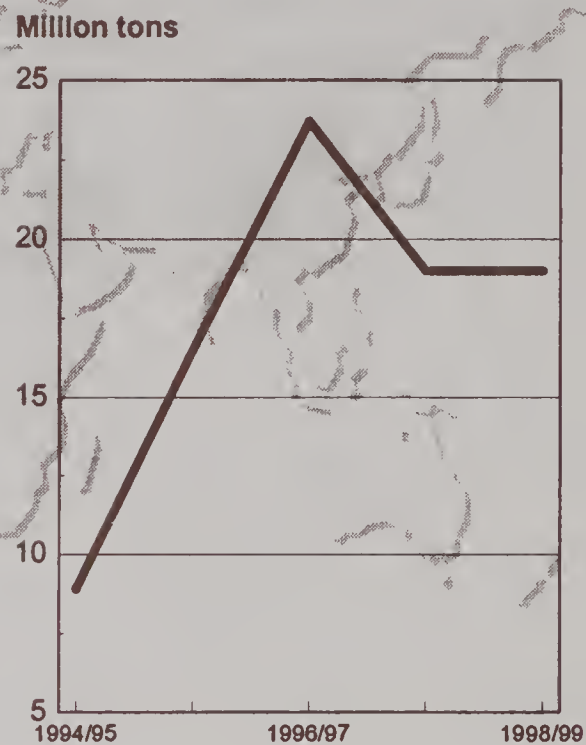
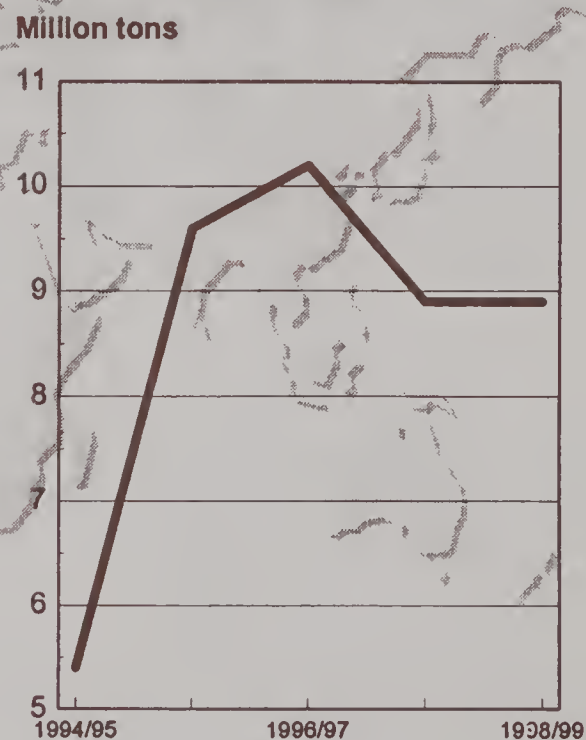


CHART 13

## Australia Coarse Grain Output Up Slightly

- Area down less than 1 percent
- Yield up 1 percent
- Production up slightly



## Canada Wheat Output Down

- Area down 0.8 MHa or 7 percent
- Yield up 6 percent
- Production down 0.3 MMT or 1 percent

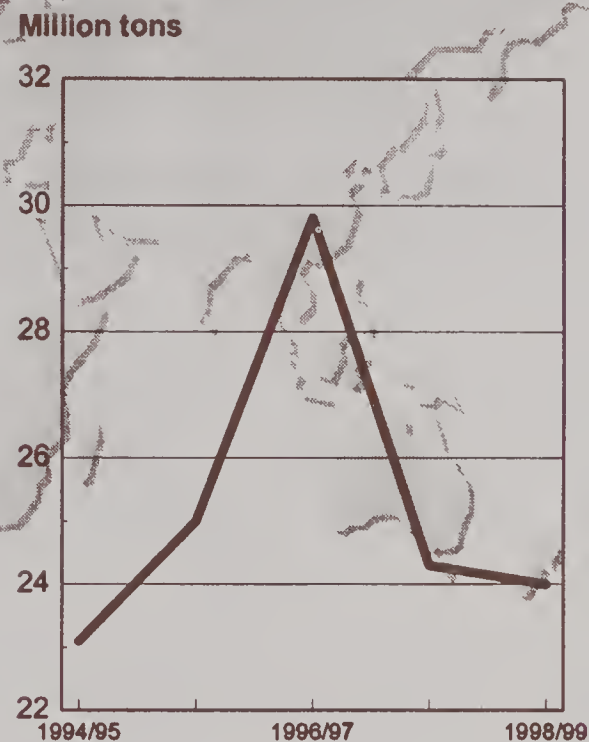
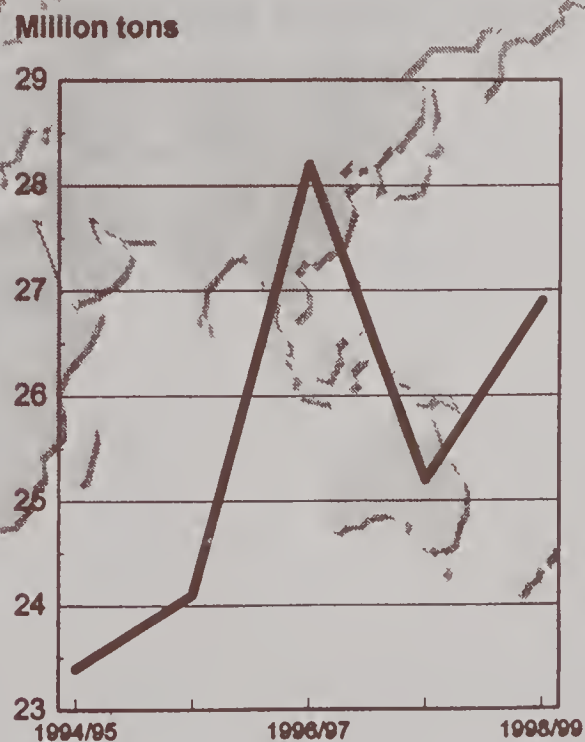


CHART 15

## Canada Coarse Grain Output Higher

- Area up 0.4 MHa or 5 percent
- Yield up 2 percent
- Production up 1.6 MMT or 6 percent





## Argentina Wheat Production Decreases

- Area decreases 0.6 MHa or 11 percent
- Yield down 9 percent
- Production decreases 2.7 MMT or 18 percent

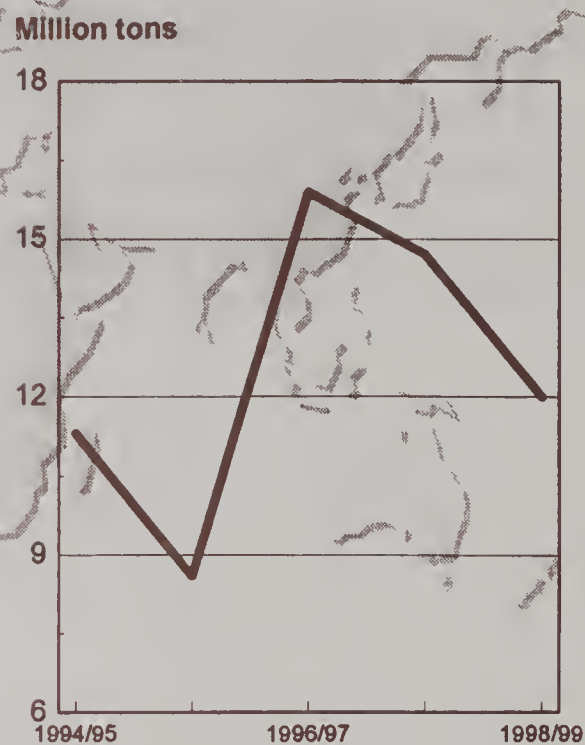
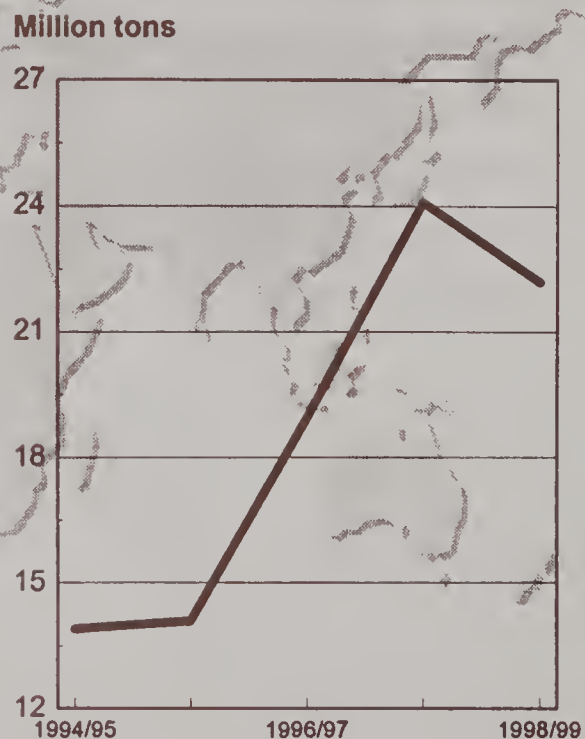


CHART 17

## Argentina Coarse Grain Output Down

- Area up 0.2 MHa or 3 percent
- Yield down 11 percent
- Production decreases 1.9 MMT or 8 percent



## China Wheat Output Lower

- Area down 0.2 MHa or 1 percent
- Yield down 4 percent
- Production down 6.0 MMT or 5 percent

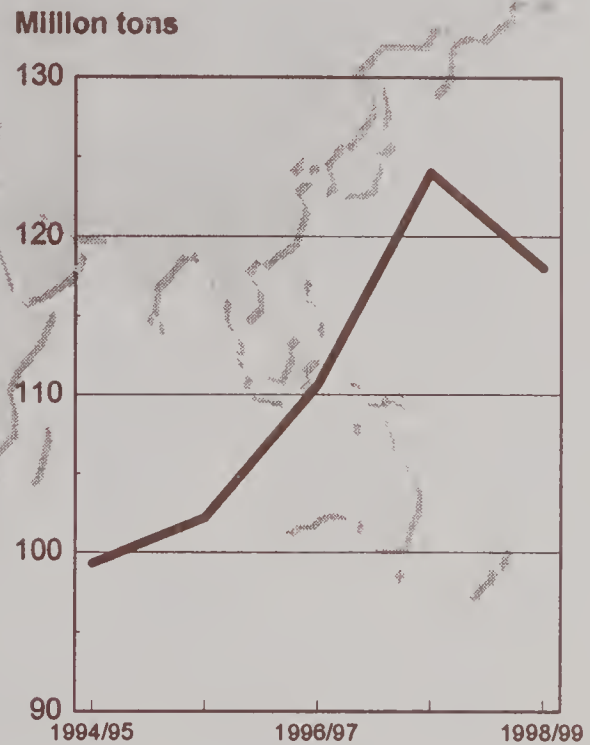
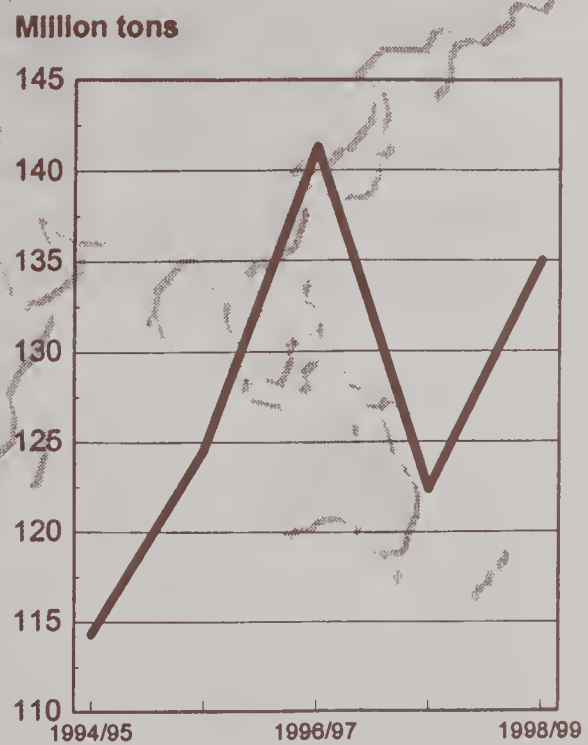


CHART 19

## China Coarse Grain Production Higher

- Area up 0.5 MHa or 2 percent
- Yield up 8 percent
- Production up 12.6 MMT or 10 percent





## FSU-12 Wheat Output Decreases

- Area down 2.2 MHa or 5 percent
- Yield down 4 percent
- Production decreases 7.0 MMT or 9 percent

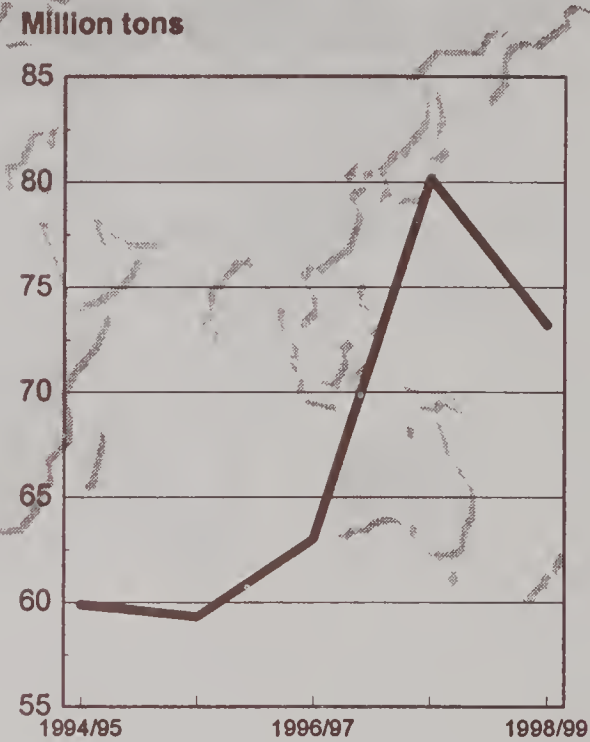
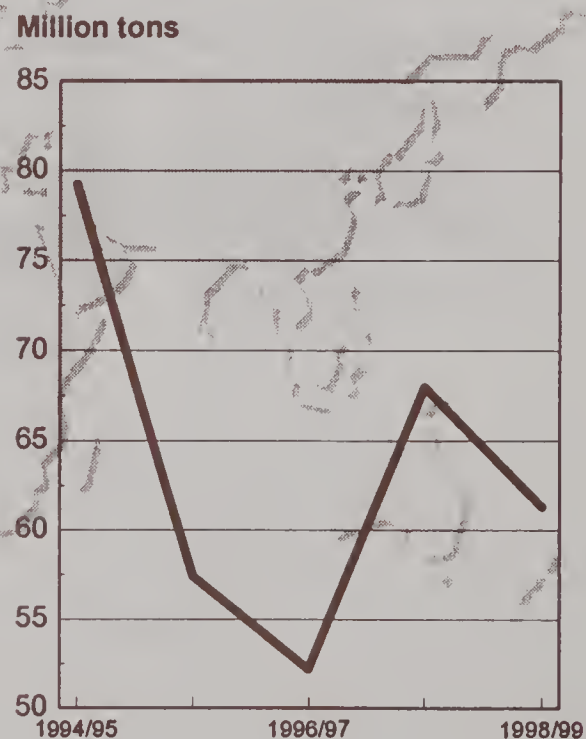


CHART 21

## FSU-12 Coarse Grain Output Decreases

- Area down 2.7 MHa or 7 percent
- Yield down 3 percent
- Production decreases 6.7 MMT or 10 percent



## Mexico Wheat Output Down Slightly

- Area up 2 percent
- Yield down 7 percent
- Production down 0.2 MMT or 5 percent

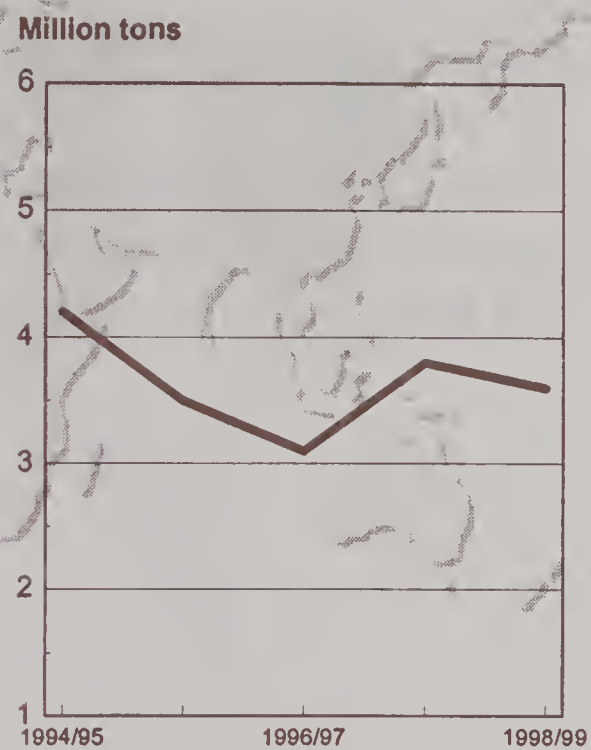
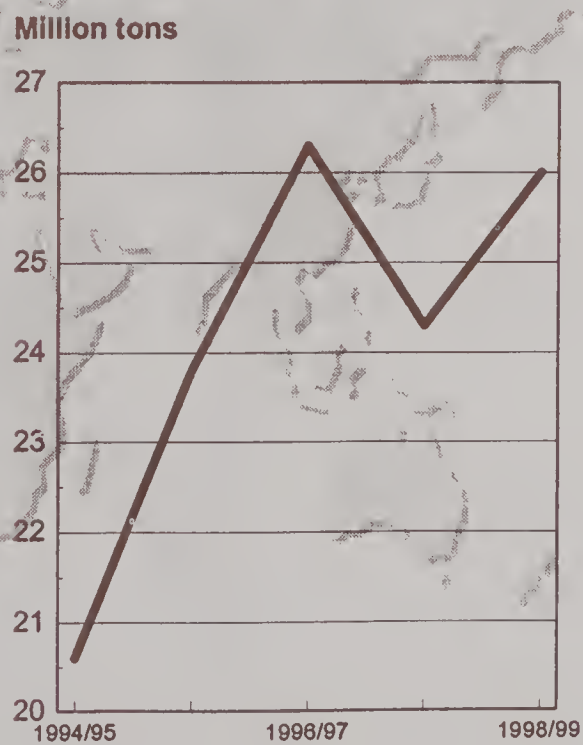


CHART 23

## Mexico Coarse Grain Output Higher

- Area up 0.9 MHa or 9 percent
- Yield down 3 percent
- Production up 1.5 MMT or 6 percent





## Brazil Wheat Output Lower

- Area down 0.3 MHa or 21 percent
- Yield down 11 percent
- Production decreases 0.8 MMT or 29 percent

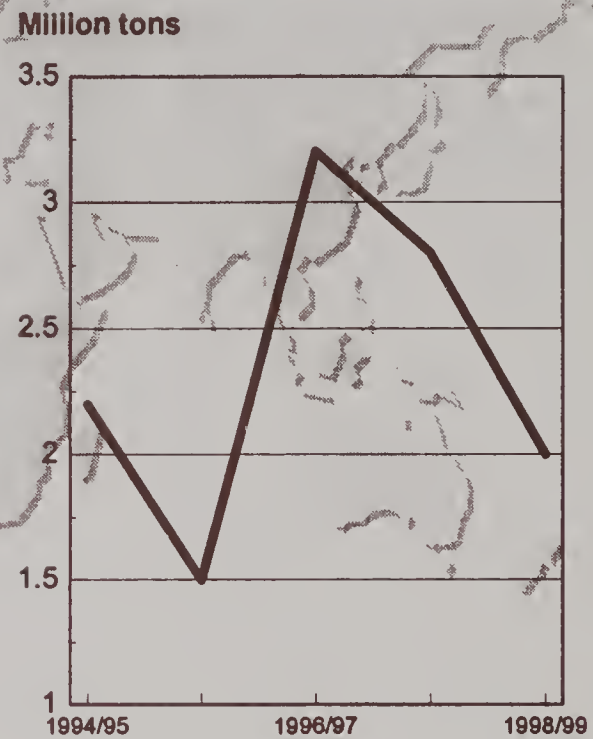
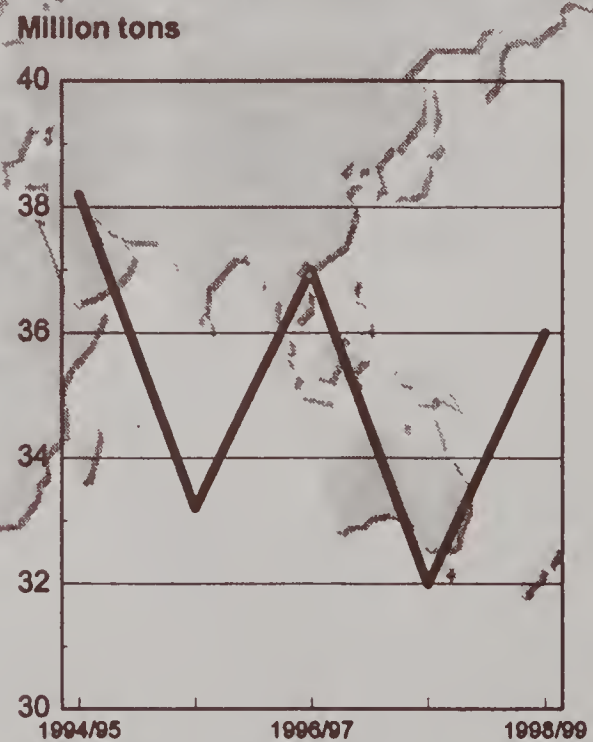


CHART 25

## Brazil Coarse Grain Output Higher

- Area up 0.9 MHa or 7 percent
- Yield up 5 percent
- Production increases 4.0 MMT or 13 percent



## Northwest Africa Wheat Output Higher

- Area up 0.9 MHa or 20 percent
- Yield up 38 percent
- Production increases 2.4 MMT or 63 percent

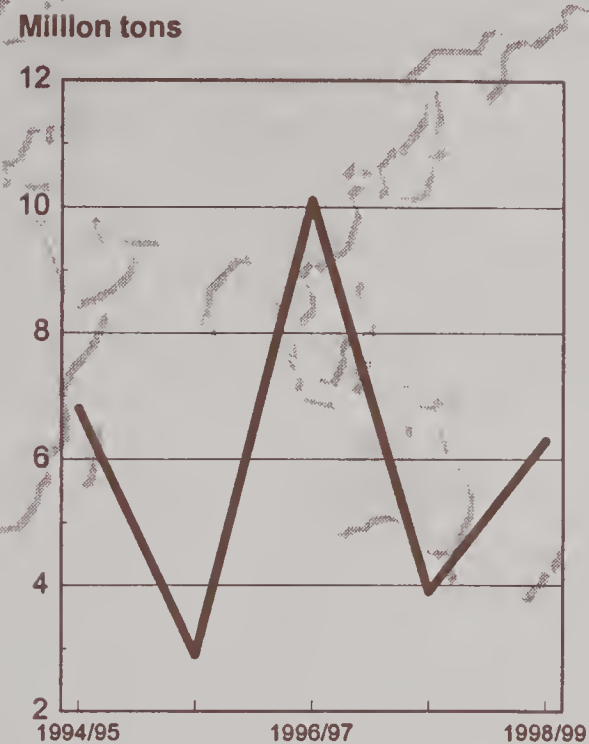
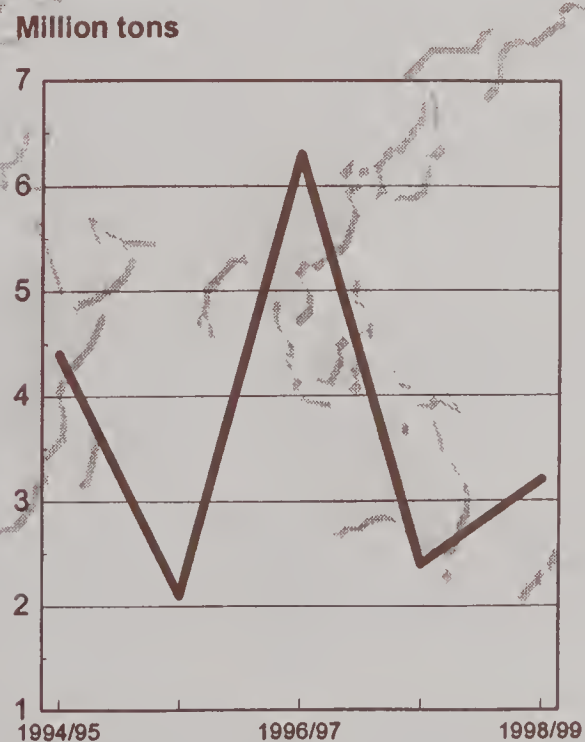


CHART 27

## Northwest Africa Coarse Grain Output Higher

- Area up 0.3 MHa or 9 percent
- Yield up 23 percent
- Production increases 0.8 MMT or 33 percent





## INDICATIONS FOR 1998/99 WORLD COTTON PRODUCTION

World cotton area and production for the 1998/99 season depends on several factors with cotton prices and those of competing crops playing a crucial role. Cotton production also is influenced by domestic and world financial conditions, government policies, and weather. The Cotlook A-Index represents the price level of international raw cotton offered to the market on a daily basis from several cotton trading countries. Generally, a direct relationship exists between cotton area and production and the price index for the previous year. During the first nine months of 1997/98 marketing year, the index has dropped 16 cents per pound with this April's price, 14 cents below that of April 1997. This factor alone suggests that cotton area and production next year will drop below the 33.5 million hectares and 88.6 million bales currently estimated for 1997/98. However, output depends also upon the price level of other crops in relation to the price of cotton, production costs associated with cotton production, and government policies. The preliminary forecast indicates that world cotton area and production in 1998/99 could decline to 32.5 million hectares and 86.5 million bales, with China and the United States contributing the largest declines.

In China cotton production for 1998/99 is highly uncertain. A continuation of circumstances that have plagued cotton production in the recent past, including environmental factors as well as from governmental actions, indicate that production will decline from the 19.7 million bale output of 1997/98. For the 1998/99 season, China has announced a new procurement price for domestically produced cotton which is substantially lower than the price paid to farmers in 1997/98. In addition, to the lower value, the procurement price will be allowed to fluctuate up to 5 percent, presumably at the discretion of Provincial Officials. The only exception to this is in Xinjiang province, where no limits are being placed on the amount of price movement. The effect of the lower price on area and production should be mitigated by lower prices for grains and oilseeds and the timing of the government's price policy announcement. The announcement was made in early April at the time farmers were developing their cotton seedlings for field transplantation. Another indication for lower output for next year is the new land use policy. Late in the 1997/98 season, China changed its land use policy to permit growers in certain regions along the Yellow River to stop growing cotton. This new policy reflects growers' disenchantment with cotton production given high financial and labor costs and difficulties marketing their cotton. Reductions in cotton area in the Yellow River area are in addition to continuing shifts in area from the North China Plain to other areas, especially Xinjiang province. Some of the areas where cotton is expanding provide higher yields and are less prone to disease and insects. In the North China Plain, farmers are switching to other crops that provide a higher return on investment and require less costly inputs, especially labor. Grains and vegetables are the most frequently mentioned alternative crops, especially in northern provinces of the North China Plain.

In the Former Soviet Union (FSU), cotton production for 1998/99 is forecast above the 7.3 million bales output estimated for 1997/98. As in past years, two opposing forces continue to influence the size of the cotton area. Each country needs to maintain or expand area to earn hard currency through its cotton exports. On the other hand, they also need to increase food production to feed their growing populations. In addition to their food supply concerns, these countries continue to experience increases in land salinity caused by cotton production. As a result, the governments have encouraged a shift out of cotton cultivation to alternative crops. Uzbekistan is the FSU's largest

cotton producer with production regulated by the government. At present, the Government's policy for 1998/99 is to stabilize area at and hold production near the 1997/98 level of 5.4 million bales. Turkmenistan, the second largest producer in the FSU, has had difficulties in maintaining production in recent years. In 1996/97 output declined to 0.6 million bales but recovered in 1997/98 to 0.9 million. The government's action to privatize agricultural land in 1997/98 apparently resulted in sufficient incentives to reverse the downward spiral in production. However, cotton prices have remained low and input and machinery remain in short supply. Unless significant programs are enacted to address these problems, production is likely to remain stable at the current level of 900,000 bales of 1997/98.

In Pakistan, cotton output for 1998/99 is likely to be near the 7.0 million bales estimated for 1997/98. Factors pointing to reduced production include a lower price relative to last season, difficulties with pest control and area shifts to sugarcane in the Punjab. On the other hand, strong demand by the Pakistani textile industry and exporters under the free trade regime continue to support production. Also, the government's plan of wide scale distribution of insect and virus resistant varieties for planting in 1998/99 will help to maintain cotton production near 1997/98 levels.

In India, despite high domestic prices during the ongoing 1997/98 marketing season, cotton area in 1998/99 is likely to decline with output near the five-year average. Growers are expected to reduce area in response to heavy losses suffered in the current season, particularly in Punjab and Andhra Pradesh, due to untimely rains and pest attack. Factors influencing cotton planting for the 1998/99 season are: end-of-season price for the 1997/98 crop; 1998 monsoon rainfall situation; pest and weather related problems encountered by the cotton farmers during the current year; and the 1998 export outlook for cotton yarn. The net impact of all these factors could be a marginal decline in cotton planting this year from the near record level of 9.0 million hectares for 1997/98. Output is projected to be near the five-year average of 12.0 million bales, well above the 1997/98 weather-reduced crop of 11.2 million bales. Because of the cotton losses in northern states and Andhra Pradesh, farmers may switch to other competing crops such as rice, coarse cereals, and sugarcane. In Andhra Pradesh, tobacco, chillies, and coarse cereals are the favored crops over cotton. However, the likely cotton area decline in these states would be partially offset by increased cotton area in some of the central and southern states where the return from cotton this year has improved.

U.S. cotton production is estimated at 16.7 million bales, down 2.1 million bales, or 11 percent from the 1997/98 level. USDA's March 1 survey of producers' planting intentions indicated that area will decline 4 percent, with the largest regional reductions in the Southeast and Delta, where growers are shifting area to crops with lower production costs, especially corn. Applying historical average abandonment and yield rates provides preliminary estimates of 12.3 million for harvested acres and 650 pounds per harvested acre for yield. As of May 3, cotton planting progress lagged the 5-year average, with significant delays due mainly to excessive rainfall in California, the Delta States, Georgia, and South Carolina. An updated survey of acres planted will be published on June 30; USDA's first objective yield crop estimate will be published on August 12.

Individual country level supply and distribution estimates will be detailed for cotton on July 10, 1998.



TABLE 20  
WORLD COTTON AREA, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION

<u>Year</u>	<u>Harvest Area</u>	<u>Yield</u>	<u>Production</u>
	(1,000 Ha)	(Kg/Ha)	(1,000 Bales*)
1987/88	30,863	572	81,095
1988/89	33,817	544	84,423
1989/90	31,557	550	79,735
1990/91	33,161	572	87,071
1991/92	34,819	599	95,748
1992/93	32,635	550	82,493
1993/94	30,704	544	76,732
1994/95	32,180	579	85,609
1995/96	35,933	564	93,027
1996/97	33,825	574	89,179
1997/98 p	33,491	576	88,626
1998/99 Forecast	32,500	579	86,500
5-year Average	33,227	568	86,635

\* = 480-pound bales

p = preliminary

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